



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006

This section contains the following subsection :

2006 Census Geographies
Age (AGEP) - Characteristics 2006
Ancestry (ANC1P/ANC2P) - Characteristics 2006
Community Development Employment Projects Participation (CDEP) - Characteristics 2006
Australian Citizenship (CITP) - Characteristics 2006
Level of Highest Educational Attainment (HEAP) - Characteristics 2006
Place of Work (POWP) - Characteristics 2006
Child Type (CTPP) - Characteristics 2006
Core Activity Need for Assistance (ASSNP) - Characteristics 2006
Count of Dependent Children in Family (CDCF) - Characteristics 2006
Count of Dependent Children under 15 temporarily absent (CDCAF) - Characteristics 2006
Count of Dependent Students (15-24) temporarily absent (CDSAF) - Characteristics 2006
Count of Non-Dependent Children Temporarily Absent (CNDAF) - Characteristics 2006
Count of Persons in Family (CPRF) - 2006 Characteristics
Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Family (CPAF) - Characteristics 2006
Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Household (CPAD) - Characteristics
Country of Birth of Person - Characteristics 2006
Country of Birth of Mother - Characteristics 2006
Country of Birth of Father - Characteristics 2006
Dwelling Location (DLOD) - Characteristics 2006
Dwelling Structure (STRD) - Characteristics 2006
Dwelling Type (DWTD) - Characteristics 2006
Employment Type (EMTP) - Characteristics 2006
Family Blending (FBLF) - Characteristics 2006
Family Composition (FMCF) - Characteristics 2006
Family/Household Reference Person Indicator (RPIP) - Characteristic 2006
Family Income (FINF) - Characteristics 2006
Family Number (FNOF) - Characteristics 2006
Full/Part-Time Student Status (STUP) - Characteristics 2006
Government/Non-government Employer Indicator (GNGP) - Characteristics 2006
Highest Year of School Completed (HSCP) - Characteristics 2006
Hours Worked (HRSP) - Characteristics 2006
Household Composition (HHCD) - Characteristics 2006
Household Income (HIND) - Characteristics 2006
Household One Year Mobility Indicator (MV1D) - Characteristics 2006
Household Five Year Mobility Indicator (MV5D) - Characteristics 2006
Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) Ranges (HLRD01) - Characteristics 2006
Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) (HLRD) - Characteristics 2006
Imputation Flag for Age (IFAGEP) - Characteristics 2006
Imputation Flag for Number of Males and Females in Dwelling (IFNMFD) - Characteristics 2006
Imputation Flag for Place of Usual Residence (IFPURP) - Characteristics 2006

Imputation Flag for Registered Marital Status (IFMSTP) - Characteristics 2006
Indigenous Household Indicator (INDGWTD) - Characteristics 2006
Indigenous Status (INGP) - Characteristics 2006
Individual Income (weekly) (INCP) - Characteristics 2006
Industry of Employment (IND06P) - Characteristics 2006
Labour Force Status (LFS06P) - Characteristics 2006
Landlord Type (LLDD) - Characteristics 2006
Language Spoken at Home (LANP) - Characteristics 2006
Location of Spouse (SPLF) - Characteristic 2006
Method of Travel to Work (MTWP) - Characteristics 2006
Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP) - Characteristics 2006
Non-School Qualification: Level of Education (QALLP) - Characteristics 2006
Number of Bedrooms in Private Dwelling (BEDD) - Characteristics 2006
Number of Children Ever Born (TISP) - Characteristics 2006
Number of Employees (EMPP) - Characteristics 2006
Number of Motor Vehicles (VEHD) - Characteristics 2006
Number of Persons Usually Resident (NPRD) - Characteristics 2006
Occupation - Characteristics 2006
Place of Usual Residence Five Years Ago (PUR5P) - Characteristics 2006
Place of Usual Residence One Year Ago (PUR1P) - Characteristics 2006
Place of Usual Residence (PURP) - Characteristics 2006
Proficiency in Spoken English (ENGP) - Characteristics 2006
Proficiency in Spoken English/Language (ENGP01) - Characteristics 2006
Registered Marital Status (MSTP) - Characteristics 2006
Relationship Between Families (FRLF) - Characteristics 2006
Relationship in Household (RLHP) - Characteristics 2006
Religious Affiliation (RELP) - Characteristics 2006
Rent (weekly) (RNTD) - Characteristics 2006
Residential Status in a Non-Private Dwelling (RLNP) - Characteristics 2006
Same Sex Couple Indicator (SSCF) - Characteristics 2006
Sex (SEXP) - Characteristics 2006
Social Marital Status (MDCP) - Characteristics 2006
Tenure Type (TEND) - Characteristics 2006
Type of Educational Institution Attending (TYPP) - Characteristics 2006
Type of Internet Connection (NEDD) - Characteristics 2006
Type of Non-Private Dwelling (NPDD) - Characteristics 2006
Unpaid Assistance to a Person with a Disability (UNCAREP) - Characteristics 2006
Unpaid Child Care (CHCAREP) - Characteristics 2006
Unpaid Domestic Work: Number of Hours (DOMP) - Characteristics 2006
Usual Address Indicator Census Night (UAICP) - Characteristics 2006
Usual Address Five Years Ago Indicator (UAI5P) - Characteristics 2006
Usual Address One Year Ago Indicator (UAI1P) - Characteristics 2006
Usual residence - Characteristics 2006
Voluntary Work for an Organisation or Group (VOLWP) - Characteristics 2006
Year of Arrival in Australia (YARP) - Characteristics 2006

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

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Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> 2006 Census Geographies

2006 Census Geographies

Description

2006 Census Geographies

2006 Census products use the Australian Standard Geographic Classifications (ASGC) and the Census Geographic Areas. The following is a list of these and description for each to assist you in your decision on which best suits your requirements.

<u>Australia</u>	<u>State Electoral Division</u>
<u>State/Territory</u>	<u>Section of State</u>
<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Section of State Range</u>
<u>Statistical Sub Division</u>	<u>Urban Centre or Locality</u>
<u>Statistical Local Area</u>	<u>Major Statistical Region</u>
<u>Census Collection District</u>	<u>Statistical Region</u>
<u>Local Government Area</u>	<u>Statistical Region Sector</u>
<u>Remoteness Area</u>	<u>Place of Work - Study Area</u>
<u>State Suburb</u>	<u>Place of Work - Statistical Local Area</u>
<u>Postal Area</u>	<u>Indigenous Region</u>
<u>Commonwealth Electoral Division 2004</u>	<u>Indigenous Area</u>
<u>Commonwealth Electoral Division 2007</u>	<u>Indigenous Location</u>

AUSTRALIA

The total Australian population in Census tabulations comprises all people counted in Geographical Australia: the six states, Northern Territory, Australian Capital Territory, Jervis Bay Territory and the external territories of Christmas Islands and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

STATE/TERRITORY

State/Territory is the largest spatial unit in the Main Structure and the Australian Standard Geographical Classification. States and Territories are political entities with fixed boundaries and, in aggregate, cover Australia without gaps or overlaps.

STATISTICAL DIVISION

A Statistical Division (SD) is an Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) defined area which represents a large, general purpose, regional type geographic area. SDs consist of one or more Statistical Subdivisions and cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.

[Back to top](#)

STATISTICAL SUB DIVISION

The Statistical Subdivision (SSD) is an Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) defined area which represents an intermediate level, general purpose, regional type geographic

unit. They consist of one or more Statistical Local Areas and cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.

STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA

The Statistical Local Area (SLA) is defined as an area which consists of one or more collection districts. In most cases, SLAs are formed from a collection of Local Government Areas (LGA) which consist of Cities, District Councils, Community Government Councils, Municipalities, Shires, Rural Cities, Towns, Areas and Boroughs. Where there is no incorporated body or local government, SLAs are defined to cover the unincorporated areas. SLAs cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps, but in reality there are several overlaps.

CENSUS COLLECTION DISTRICT

The Census Collection District (CD) is the smallest geographic area defined in the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). Generally defined as an area that one Collector can comfortably cover delivering and collecting Census forms. CDs are defined for each Census and are current only at Census time.

For the 2006 Census, there were 38,704 CDs throughout Australia (this includes the other territories of Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Jervis Bay). In 2006, Census CDs in major cities were altered where possible to conform to suburb boundaries, allowing census statistics to be produced for these areas. CDs may also be combined to form larger geographic areas, such as Statistical Local Areas and Electoral Divisions. Collection Districts also serve as the basic building block in the ASGC and are used for the aggregation of statistics to larger census geographic areas.

A Collection District is represented by a unique seven digit code. For the 2006 Census, there is an average of about 225 dwellings in each CD. In rural areas, the number of dwellings per CD generally declines as population densities decrease.

[Back to top](#)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

The Local Government Area (LGA) is a geographical area under the responsibility of an incorporated local government council, or an incorporated Indigenous government council. The LGAs in Australia collectively cover only a part of Australia. Their creation and delimitation is the responsibility of the respective state/territory governments, and are governed by the provisions of state/territory local government acts.

The following abbreviations are used to further classify LGAs (you will notice that these symbols often appear after you have conducted a search and been given a list of locations to select from):

- (A) NSW Local Government Area (excluding cities)
- (B) Borough
- (C) City
- (CGC) Community Government Council
- (DC) District Council
- (M) Municipality/Municipal Council
- (S) Shire
- (RC) Rural City
- (T) Town

REMOTENESS AREA

Within the Australian Standard Geographical Classification, the Remoteness classification comprises five categories each of which identifies a (non-contiguous) region in Australia being a grouping of Collection Districts sharing a particular degree of remoteness. The degrees of remoteness range from 'highly accessible' (i.e. major cities) to 'very remote'.

STATE SUBURB

This is a Census-specific area where Collection Districts are aggregated to approximate gazetted suburbs and localities. Since 2001 coverage has been extended to include all of NSW, Vic, Qld, WA and Tas. It also covers most of SA and the urban parts of NT and ACT. There are no suburbs or localities gazetted in Other Territories (OT). For a list of State Suburbs, see **Statistical Geography Volume 2: Census Geographic Areas, Australia** (cat. no. 2905.0) on the ABS website.

[Back to top](#)

POSTAL AREA

Postal Areas (POA) are ABS approximations of Australia Post postcodes, created by allocating whole Collection Districts (CD) on a 'best fit' basis to postcodes. Postal Area of Enumeration is one's Postal Area at their location on Census night.

COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION 2004

A Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED) is an area legally prescribed for the purpose of returning one member (or more in the case of the Tasmanian House of Assembly and the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly) to the Federal, State or Territory Lower Houses of Parliament. Commonwealth Electoral Divisions (CED) have different boundaries to State Electoral Divisions (SED), except in Tasmania and the ACT where they are the same. CEDs cover all of Australia.

The Commonwealth Electoral Division 2004 (CED) areas, are the divisions as at the time of the 2006 Census. ie., 8 August 2006

COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION 2007

A Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED) is an area legally prescribed for the purpose of returning one member (or more in the case of the Tasmanian House of Assembly and the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly) to the Federal, State or Territory Lower Houses of Parliament. Commonwealth Electoral Divisions (CED) have different boundaries to State Electoral Divisions (SED), except in Tasmania and the ACT where they are the same. CEDs cover all of Australia.

The Commonwealth Electoral Division 2007 (CED) areas, are the redistributed divisions used during the Federal Election, which was conducted on 24/11/2007.

[Back to top](#)

STATE ELECTORAL DIVISION

A State Electoral Division is an area legally prescribed for the purpose of returning one member (or more in the case of the Tasmanian House of Assembly and the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly) to the Federal, State or Territory Lower Houses of Parliament. State Electoral Divisions (SED) have different boundaries to Commonwealth Electoral Divisions (CED).

SECTION OF STATE

The Section of State (SOS) classification uses population counts to define Collection Districts as urban or rural and to provide, in aggregate, statistics for urban concentrations and for bounded localities and balance areas. SOS represents an aggregation of non-contiguous geographical areas of a particular urban/rural type.

SECTION OF STATE RANGE

This geographical classification uses population counts to define Collection Districts (CDs) as urban or rural and to provide, in aggregate, statistics for urban concentrations and for bounded localities and balance areas. This geographic structure is used to determine the Section of State (SOS) geographic classification. SSR represents an aggregation of non-contiguous geographical areas of a particular urban/rural type. The Sections of State ranges are as follows;

- 1 million or more (Major Urban – SOS)
- 250,000 to 999,999 (Major Urban – SOS)

- 100,000 to 249,999 (Major Urban – SOS)
- 50,000 to 99,999 (Other Urban – SOS)
- 20,000 to 49,999 (Other Urban – SOS)
- 10,000 to 19,999 (Other Urban – SOS)
- 5,000 to 9,999 (Other Urban – SOS)
- 1,000 to 4,999 (Other Urban – SOS)
- 500 to 999 (Bounded Locality – SOS)
- 200 to 499 (Bounded Locality – SOS)
- Remainder of State/Territory (Rural Balance – SOS)
- Off-Shore, shipping, migratory (Migratory – SOS)

[Back to top](#)

STATISTICAL DISTRICT

A Statistical District (SDist) is an Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) defined area which bounds a large predominantly urban area outside the Capital City Statistical Divisions. A Statistical District consists of one or more urban centres in close proximity to each other, with a total population of 25,000 or more. The boundaries of Statistical Districts are defined to contain the anticipated urban spread of the area for a period of at least twenty years.

URBAN CENTRE OR LOCALITY

An Urban Centre (UC/L) is generally defined as a population cluster of 1,000 or more people. A Locality is generally defined as a population cluster of between 200 and 999 people. People living in Urban Centres are classified as urban for statistical purposes while those in Localities are classified as rural (i.e. non-urban). Each Urban Centre and/or Locality (UC/L) is bounded (i.e. a boundary for it is clearly defined) and composed of one or more Collection Districts (CDs).

MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION

Major Statistical Regions (MSR) divide each of the five larger states, NSW, Vic, Qld, SA and WA into two geographical areas: one equates with the Capital City Statistical Division and the other with the balance of the State. Due to population size limitations, Tasmania, Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory and Other Territories each consist of only one MSR corresponding to the whole of the State/Territory.

[Back to top](#)

STATISTICAL REGION

The Statistical Region (SR) is an Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) defined area which has sufficient population to be suitable for the presentation of both population Census and labour force statistics within the frameworks for standard statistical outputs from these collections. SRs cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.

STATISTICAL REGION SECTOR

As divisions of Statistical Regions, Statistical Region Sectors (SRS) consist of one or more adjoining Statistical Local Areas (SLA). SRSs are used primarily for disseminating selected Population Census and labour force statistics, and have been used to present a range of regional statistics not incorporated into the main structure.

PLACE OF WORK STUDY AREA

Place of Work data provide information on where a person goes to work. The address of the person's workplace in the week prior to Census Night is coded to a Destination Zone using an index provided by the State Transport Authorities, who also define the Study Area (boundary) that is designated by that code.

A major change occurred for the 2001 Census. Previously, Place of Work Study Areas were restricted to some major urban areas in each state. If a person was not enumerated in the defined Study Area, he/she was coded to 'Not applicable'. For example, if a person regularly commuted from Goulburn to work in Sydney, Place of Work data could not be obtained from

him/her. In 2001, the Study Areas were expanded to encompass all of Australia, excluding external territories. The changes for 2001 allow a more comprehensive view of transport patterns across a state or territory.

There are eight main study areas which approximate to the eight states/territories. Each study area is further classified as either extended or detailed. Detailed study areas comprise destination zones which aggregate to SLAs, while the extended study areas are not coded below the level of SLA. This allows Place of Work tables to be run for a whole state/territory at the SLA level.

Question 41 on the 2006 Census form asks, 'For the main job held last week, what was the person's workplace address?'. This address is coded to a destination zone within the detailed Place of Work study area, or to an SLA in the extended Place of Work study area.

[Back to top](#)

PLACE OF WORK STUDY AREA - STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA

Place of Work data provide information on where a person goes to work. The address of the person's workplace in the week prior to Census Night is coded to a Destination Zone using an index provided by the State Transport Authorities, who also define the Study Area (boundary) that is designated by that code.

Destination Zones do not concord with Collection Districts but they do aggregate to Statistical Local Areas (SLAs), and it is at the SLA level that Place of Work data can be used in conjunction with other aggregated Census data.

INDIGENOUS REGION

The Commonwealth Government uses 30 Indigenous Coordination Centres (ICC) and the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) to manage the delivery of a range of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people around Australia. For Census purposes, the ABS defines Indigenous Regions (IREG) based on the ICC and TSRA areas. Some ICC Regions are split into two IREGs based on statistical differences with ICC Regions, and also to allow for the Australian Capital Territory to be a discrete IREG. IREGs are aggregations of Collection Districts which lie mostly or completely within an ICC or TSRA area. IREGs cover in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. (Note: IREGs have replaced ATSIC Regions used to disseminate data from the 1996 and 2001 Censuses.) Census data, including a range of Indigenous statistics such as Indigenous profiles, are available by IREG.

INDIGENOUS AREA

Indigenous Areas (IARE) are aggregates of Collection Districts which represent a population of at least 300 Indigenous persons. IAREs aggregate to Indigenous Regions, and cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.

INDIGENOUS LOCATION

Indigenous Locations (ILOC) are single Collection Districts (CDs) or aggregates of CDs which have a population of at least 80 Indigenous persons. ILOCs aggregate to Indigenous Areas. ILOCs cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 28/06/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Age (AGEP) - Characteristics 2006

Age

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

Age has been collected in all Australian Censuses. Age data, combined with sex data, are essential for the production of accurate population estimates based on the Census count.

The 2006 Census form gives respondents the option of writing in their age and/or their date of birth. During processing age is calculated from date of birth where provided, else stated age is used. Only age in years data are output. If neither age nor date of birth is provided, age is imputed using other information on the form and using an age distribution of the population. The variable Imputation Flag for Age (IFAGEP) is used to indicate if a person's age has been imputed for the Census. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>4 What is the person's date of birth (or age last birthday)?</p> <p>• Example for date of birth: 2 3 0 5 1 9 7 0</p> <p>• If date of birth not known, give age last birthday.</p> <p>• Example for age last birthday: 3 6 Years</p>	<p>Day Month Year</p> <table><tr><td><input type="text"/></td><td><input type="text"/></td><td><input type="text"/></td><td><input type="text"/></td><td><input type="text"/></td></tr></table> <p>OR</p> <p>Age last birthday</p> <table><tr><td><input type="text"/></td><td><input type="text"/></td><td><input type="text"/></td><td>Years</td></tr></table>	<input type="text"/>	Years							
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>						
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Years							

[Back to top](#)

Classification

For the 2001 Census age was available for 0 to 99 years singly and then 100 years and over. For 2006 age is available for 0 to 115 years singly.

Applicable to: All persons

000 - 115 (0 to 115 years of age singly)

Or data may be output by age group

For example by 5 year age groups:

0-4 years

5-9 years

and so on.

Total number of categories:

by single year 116

by 5 year age group 18

More Detailed Description

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Age (AGEP)

In 2006, the question on Age included the option to report either Date of Birth (DOB) or Age last birthday. The check box for selecting '100 years or more' that appeared in 2001 was removed, allowing people to record actual ages in this age range.

The majority of respondents provided DOB information only (52.9%), while 36.6% reported both DOB and Age last birthday and 5.7% reported Age last birthday only. The remainder (4.8%) did not state either. Where both sets of information were provided, DOB information was used to derive an age in years (AGEP).

Where age could not be derived or was not stated (or set to not stated during processing as discussed below) then it was imputed, using other information on the form, and using an age distribution of the population. The imputation rate in 2006 for Age (AGEP) was 5.0% compared with 3.6% for 2001. Nearly all of this imputation is attributable to the 4.2% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics including AGEP. In 2001, 2.2% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

There were a small number of cases where age was set to 'not stated' because of inconsistencies between age and relationship data. This occurred most often because the Census concept of a parent and child relationship requires a 15 year age gap where such a relationship exists (and a 30 year age gap where a grandparent/grandchild relationship exists). Where this condition is not met, the age of the parent or grandparent is set to not stated and then imputed. These types of adjustments occurred for 0.2% of all persons.

There are two main sources for error in age data: respondent error, and processing error.

Respondent error

Users of the data need to bear in mind that almost all census data are as originally reported by the respondents. Respondents occasionally provided the date that they filled out the form, or the date of their last birthday, as their date of birth. Such records that could be positively identified, using other information on the form, had their ages set to not stated and then imputed. Other respondent actions, such as crossing out of incorrect digits, transposing numbers (particularly by eCensus users), and 'sticky key' repetition errors (for eCensus users), are more difficult to determine, and such errors are likely to remain in final output.

Processing error

Age data was mostly captured from hand written numeric responses: therefore there is some risk of character recognition error. During processing, the vast majority of individual characters handwritten on paper forms met preset recognition confidence levels and were accepted without

further examination. However, there are low-level patterns of regular numeric substitution in the final data (for example between 8 and 0; 1 and 7; 4 and 9) that suggest that the automated preset recognition confidence tests may not have been sufficiently rigorous for some poor handwriting, affecting a small proportion of AGEP data.

Characters that failed recognition confidence levels, were sent to a team of coders for further determination. Coders selected the most likely digit the respondent was trying to convey, based on visual inspection of an image of the response. If there was no way that a determination could be made regarding individual digits within Age last birthday, then the entire content of the field was deleted, so that misleading information was not passed on to later systems. For DOB, where the Year of Birth was unrecognisable and could not be ascertained from an associated Age last birthday response, that field was deleted. Age for these records was imputed at a later stage of processing.

Sample checks were made throughout the data capture processing schedule, to ensure an acceptable level of processing quality was maintained.

Data confrontation

One way of measuring the accuracy of age data is to compare reported age, and derived age (calculated from DOB data) for the 36.6% of respondents who supplied both sets of information. Where both DOB and Age last birthday were provided, the two values for age were consistent in 91.7% of cases, giving high confidence that the age (AGEP) for these records were correct. For 6.2% of persons there was only one year difference between the data items. For the remaining 2.1%, however, where the difference was two or more years, respondent error (for either variable, or both), or character recognition problems during processing were the most likely causes. In all cases, the assumption was made that DOB was correct. It is equally probable (but unverifiable) that a similar degree of error exists in AGEP for those records where just Date of Birth, or just Age last birthday, were supplied by the respondent.

Caution in uses of data

Census data can be used for the analysis of population characteristics at finer geographic levels and for smaller sub-groups than would be reliably available from household surveys. However, at very fine data levels, and as other data items are incorporated, outliers (unusual results) may become more apparent. Users are therefore cautioned to keep in mind the age data quality issues which have been outlined above, when looking at small population groups. Post-censal analysis of data for the population aged 100 and over indicates that users should be wary of cross-classifying age data for this group with other population characteristics. In most cases it is advised that users collapse the single age categories for those aged 100 and over into a single output category. For the official ABS estimate of demographic data on the Australian population, users should use data on Estimated Resident Population (cat.no. 3201.0)

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.

06/06/2008 Note: The Quality Statement - Age (AGEP) was amended.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Ancestry (ANC1P/ANC2P) - Characteristics 2006

Ancestry

On this page:

Description

Image of Question

Classification

Quality Statement

Description

A person's ancestry, when used in conjunction with the person's country of birth and whether the person's parents were born in Australia or overseas, provides a good indication of the ethnic background of first and second generation Australians. Ancestry is particularly useful to identify distinct ethnic or cultural groups within Australia such as Maoris or Australian South Sea Islanders, and groups which are spread across countries such as Kurds or Indians. Country of birth alone cannot identify these groups. This information is essential in developing policies which reflect the needs of our society and for the effective delivery of services to particular ethnic communities. More Detailed Description

Image of Question

<p>18 What is the person's ancestry?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide up to two ancestries only. Examples of 'Other – please specify' are: GREEK, VIETNAMESE, HMONG, DUTCH, KURDISH, MAORI, LEBANESE, AUSTRALIAN SOUTH SEA ISLANDER. See page 7 of the Census Guide for more information. Remember to mark boxes like this: — 	<input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Irish <input type="checkbox"/> Italian <input type="checkbox"/> German <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Scottish <input type="checkbox"/> Australian <p>Other – please specify</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100px; margin-top: 10px;"></table>
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Back to top

Classification

1. Oceanian
 2. North - West European

3. Southern and Eastern European
4. North African and Middle Eastern
5. South-East Asian
6. North-East Asian
7. Southern and Central Asian
8. People of the Americas
9. Sub-Saharan African

Supplementary Codes:

- 0000. Inadequately described
- 0901. Eurasian, so described
- 0902. Asian, so described
- 0903. African, so described
- 0904. European, so described
- 0905. Caucasian, so described
- 0906. Creole, so described
- &&& Not stated (applies to ANC1P only)
- @@@ Not applicable (applies to ANC2P only)
- VVVV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories:

- one digit level 9
- two digit level 36
- four digit level 274

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Ancestry

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Ancestry.

The ancestry data collected in the Census is a measure of self-identification of ethnic or cultural group affiliation and therefore provides a broad measure of cultural diversity.

Most of the data (84.4% for Ancestry 1 (ANC1P) and 94.0% for Ancestry 2 (ANC2P)) was captured automatically from check box responses where the risk of processing error is minimal. The remainder were written responses which were coded by an automatic reading and coding process (13.2% of ANC1P and 5.4% of ANC2P), or coded clerically (2.4% ANC1P and 0.6% of ANC2P). A very small number were difficult to clerically code (0.2% for ANC1P and 0.1% for ANC2P) and more relaxed rules were used by coders. All coding is subject to sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for ANC1P in 2006 was 8.1% compared with 6.9% for ANCP in 2001 (note that ANC1P for 2006 and ANCP for 2001 are the data items that contain not stated for Ancestry). Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.1% of persons in dwellings which

were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for ANC1P remain not stated. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

Inadequately described responses (written responses unable to be coded) were 0.1%, down from 0.4% in 2001.

Scottish ancestry (in terms of responses for both ANC1P and ANC2P) has risen from 2.9% of persons (2.4% of all responses) in 2001 to 7.6% of persons (5.9% of all responses) in 2006. This may be partly due to its inclusion in the list of check box responses. The list of check box response options is updated for each Census to reflect the ancestries most commonly reported in the preceding Census. Revision of the list of check box response options between 2001 and 2006 may have also resulted in a small decrease in reportage of Greek ancestry, which did not appear in the list for the 2006 Census. These issues are discussed in more detail in the following Ancestry Census Fact Sheet.

There were some cases where dual ancestries were provided (for example, Fijian Indian) and attempts were made to code as one ancestry, but if this was unsuccessful they were coded separately as ANC1P and ANC2P. This represents a change from 2001 where they were more likely to have been coded as separate ancestries.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is around 3%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for Ancestry, respondents were asked to mark up to two responses). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/11/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Community Development Employment Projects Participation (CDEP) - Characteristics 2006

Community Development Employment Projects Participation

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

Participation in Community Development Employment Projects is asked as a separate question only on the Interviewer household forms. Community Development Employment Projects participation is not applicable to people enumerated on mainstream forms. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Employed persons who are counted using the Interviewer household form only.

1. Participant worker in CDEP
 2. Not a participant in CDEP
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable
V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 5

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Community Development Employment Projects Participation (CDEP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Community Development Employment Projects Participation (CDEP).

Care should be exercised when using Community Development Employment Projects Participation as its limited collection in the 2006 Census (as outlined in the paragraphs below) means it cannot be used as a count of persons who are participating in the CDEP program. It does however, provide information on the characteristics of those persons for whom it was

collected.

This data is only applicable to those persons who were enumerated on Interviewer Household Forms (IHF) and who answered "Yes" to the question on whether they had a job last week (Question 41 in the IHF). IHFs were primarily used in remote communities across Australia. The proportion of Indigenous persons enumerated on IHFs in the states and territories where IHFs were used are: New South Wales (2.9%), Queensland (16.6%), Western Australia (19.6%), South Australia (11.7%), the Northern Territory (66.0%) and Other Territories (71.8%). Some non-Indigenous persons were also enumerated on an IHF and a number of these were recorded as being a "Participant worker in CDEP", making up 2.1% of persons in this category.

In addition, as Question 41 refers to a person's "main job", jobs for which CDEP is only a component may not be reported as CDEP jobs.

The question on participation in CDEP is new for 2006, although it was collected as a category of GNGP (Industry Sector) for the 2001 Census. The data for the two Censuses is not comparable as 2001 data also included persons enumerated on forms other than the Special Indigenous Form (similar to the IHF), who reported "CDEP" in their written responses to the work questions. For 2001, the total number of persons in the CDEP category of GNGP was 19,769 and the number of these that were enumerated on SIFs was 15,026. For 2006, the number of persons in the CDEP category "Participant worker in CDEP" was 14,497.

Note also that although the SIF in 2001 and the IHF in 2006 were used broadly in remote areas, there was some variation between the Censuses.

CDEP is derived from check box responses to Question 41 in the IHF and the risk of processing error is minimal.

Because of the way it is derived, there is no non-response for CDEP. However 7.9% of persons enumerated on IHFs and for whom the question on whether they had a job last week was applicable did not answer that question.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of

these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

Note: This page was amended on 6th June 2008.

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Child Type (CTPP) - Characteristics 2006

Child Type

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This classification identifies children according to different types of parent-child relationships within families and is applicable to all children irrespective of their age, present in the household.

A natural, adopted, foster, or otherwise related child may be in a one or two parent family. Cross classification with Family Composition (FMCF) allows analysis of different family types. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: All children

1. Natural, or adopted child of both parents or lone parent
 2. Step-child of male parent
 3. Step-child of female parent
 4. Foster child, so stated
 5. Otherwise related child (under 15)
 6. Unrelated child (under 15)
- @ Not applicable
V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 8

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Child Type (CTPP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Child Type (CTPP).

In the Census, data on the child/parent relationships within the same dwelling is mainly derived

from Question 5 on the Census household form, which asks for each person's relationship to Person 1 on the form. This data is captured automatically as check box responses in 92% of cases, with the remainder obtained from written responses to the question.

Priority is given to identifying those relationships which form a 'family nucleus', i.e. partnerships and parent/child relationships and for many households, identifying relationships to assist the coding of family or household structure for that dwelling is quite straightforward. However, across the community, a wide variety of living arrangements exists and family structures can be complex and dynamic in nature, and so the quality of family data in the Census is partly dependent on people's ability to describe these relationships within the constraints of the generalised questionnaire format required by a Census. This is particularly the case for those dwellings containing blended families or multiple generations of a family.

All persons aged under 15 years are regarded as children, and where no natural, adoptive, step-, foster, or grand-parent is identified for these children within the dwelling, they are coded to "Otherwise related child" (if they are living with another adult relative, such as an older sibling or aunt or uncle) or to "Unrelated child" if no relative is identified within the same dwelling. Persons aged over 15 years are only regarded as children if they are living with a natural, adoptive, step-, foster or grand-parent. The 2006 Census shows a very small proportion (0.01%) of persons aged 80 years and over who were living with a parent. The ABS plans to do further analysis for this group to identify any data quality issues which may be affecting this result.

In some cases, children are listed on the Census form as Person 2. However if both parents are usual residents, the response "Child of both Person 1 and Person 2" is not available in the relationship question (Q5) for Person 2. In these cases coders would attempt to establish whether the child was a step child or child of both parents using other information such as surname. Preliminary analysis of the data indicates that despite these attempts there may be a small proportion of children coded to "step-child" who may be a child of both parents.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no.

2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

This page last updated 20 May 2011

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Australian Citizenship (CITP) - Characteristics 2006

Australian Citizenship

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records people who state they have Australian citizenship.

Citizenship data are used to obtain information on the tendency of different migrant groups to take out citizenship and to measure the size of groups eligible to vote. The data are useful cross-classified with country of birth, year of arrival in Australia and age data. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

11 Is the person an Australian citizen?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Australian citizen <input type="checkbox"/> No
• Remember to mark box like this: —	

[Back to top](#)

Classification

This variable records people who say they have Australian citizenship.

Applicable to: All persons

1. Australian
2. Not Australian
- & Not Stated
- V Overseas visitors

Total number of categories: 4

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Australian Citizenship (CITP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Australian Citizenship (CITP).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 6.7% compared with 4.8% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.1% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics, however the values for Australian Citizenship (CITP) remain not stated. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 1%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for CITP respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

This page last updated 20 May 2011



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Core Activity Need for Assistance (ASSNP) - Characteristics 2006

Core Activity Need for Assistance

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

The 2006 Census is the first Census to have the variable Core Activity Need for Assistance. The Core Activity Need for Assistance variable has been developed to measure the number of people with a profound or severe disability. As with the ABS Surveys of Disability, Ageing and Carers, the Census of Population and Housing defines the profound or severe disability population as: 'those people needing help or assistance in one or more of the three core activity areas of self-care, mobility and communication, because of a long-term health condition (lasting six months or more), a disability (lasting six months or more), or old age'. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: All persons

1. Has need for assistance with core activities
 2. Does not have need for assistance with core activities
- & Not stated
V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 4

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Core Activity Need for Assistance (ASSNP). This data is based on responses to four questions on the Census form. Data is captured automatically from mark sense box responses where the risk of processing error is low. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality. Responses to the four questions are then combined to produce the single variable Core Activity Need for Assistance (ASSNP).

The non-response rate for 2006 was 6.4%. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.1% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for ASSNP remain not stated.

ASSNP in the Census and other ABS data sources about disability

The Census 'Core Activity Need for Assistance' (ASSNP) concept was developed to indicate the disability status of people in Australia according to geographic area, and for small groups within the broader population. Of all ABS collections of disability data, only the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC) is considered to comprehensively measure disability populations, and to provide rates of disability prevalence at the national and state levels. The census concept of ASSNP is related to the 'disability status' information collected in the SDAC and describes the more severe end of the disability spectrum. The population being measured by ASSNP is conceptually comparable with the SDAC population of people with a profound or severe core activity limitation i.e. those who always or sometimes need assistance in one or more of the core activities of self-care, mobility or communication.

The table below describes the key differences between the three disability measures collected by the ABS, and suggests for which purpose each should ideally be used. The rates of persons stating a Core Activity Need for Assistance in the Census are lower than rates for the same concept from the SDAC. This is as expected based on testing before the census. A similar effect occurs when the short disability module is used (as is the case in the General Social Survey) instead of the longer SDAC question set.

Despite the conceptual consistency of the measures, abbreviating the set of questions used to collect data on disability, as required for the census, reduces the number of people who can be classified as having a disability or to a particular level of disability, depending on the concept being collected. With regard to the concept core activity need for assistance (or severe/profound disability), the SDAC asks detailed questions about a range of tasks within each of the activity areas, the module (as used in the GSS) collapses this into a detailed prompt card still with each task within the activity areas clearly identified, and the census further collapses this into three questions (one for each of the activity areas), and a 'reason question' to exclude those people who indicate a need for assistance for reasons other than underlying disability, long-term health conditions or old age. The more the concept of need for assistance is collapsed into a reduced question set, the smaller the resulting population becomes because there are fewer 'trigger points' for inclusion. Other factors having an influence on population levels would be the difference between collecting the information via a personal interview or via a census self-completed paper or e-form questionnaire where one household member generally completes the form on the behalf of others.

ABS DISABILITY MEASURES			
Disability status categories*	POPULATION CENSUS	SHORT SURVEY MODULE	SURVEY OF DISABILITY, AGEING & CARERS (SDAC)
Profound	Core activity need for assistance (broad measure)	Disability status (broad measure)	Disability status (full measure)
Severe			
Moderate			
Mild			
Employment/education restriction only		Concept not directly comparable with SDAC	

*Derived from information collected about health conditions resulting in a need for help with core activities, amount of help needed, and employment/education difficulties.			
Purpose of measure	Analysis of characteristics of populations of interest (small areas, small population groups)	Analysis of characteristics of populations of interest (according to survey topic)	Prevalence of disability in Australia
Number of questions	4	12	75
Output categories	Whether has a core activity need for assistance	Whether has a disability/ all disability status categories	Whether has a disability/ all disability status categories
Geographic outputs	All ASGC areas	Australia, most states (excl. remote areas)	Australia, most states (excl. remote areas)
Age scope	All persons	All adults (depending on survey design)	All persons
Dwelling scope	All dwellings	Private dwellings only	All dwellings (excl. gaols)
Most recent collection date	2006	2006 General Social Survey	2003

ASSNP in for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population

For the 2006 Census, rates of persons stating a Core Activity Need for Assistance for the Indigenous population are lower than rates for the same concept and population from the short disability module (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey 2002). This is consistent with what would be expected given similar findings for the general population discussed above. However, the data are affected by high non-response levels on Interviewer Household Forms used in remote communities and there is anecdotal evidence that comprehension of the questions on these forms may have been an issue. The ABS plans to do further analysis of Core Activity Needs for Assistance to identify any data quality issues which may be affecting this, and other, population groups.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of

these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Count of Dependent Children under 15 temporarily absent (CDCAF) - Characteristics 2006

Count of Dependent Children Under 15 Temporarily Absent

On this page:

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Classification

This variable counts the number of dependent children aged under 15 years that were reported as temporarily absent from the family. Due to form limitations a maximum of three people can be reported and coded as temporarily absent from the dwelling.

Applicable to: Families which include children aged under 15 years

- 0 No dependent children under 15 years temporarily absent
- 1 One dependent child under 15 years temporarily absent
- 2 Two dependent children under 15 years temporarily absent
- 3 Three dependent children under 15 years temporarily absent
- @ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 5

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Count of Dependent Children Under 15 Temporarily Absent (CDCAF)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Count of Dependent Children Under 15 Temporarily Absent (CDCAF).

Count of dependent children under 15 temporality absent (CDCAF) is applicable to families which include children aged under 15 years, that is 39.9% of all families. Of these families, 2.6% reported that there were children aged under 15 years temporarily absent from the dwelling on Census Night.

The ABS has undertaken some preliminary evaluation of the quality of Census data which suggests that around 35% of family members who are temporarily absent from their usual address on Census Night are not included in the relevant section of the Census form (Q53). This is only partly explained by the reporting limitation of three persons per household.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Count of Dependent Students (15-24) temporarily absent (CDSAF) - Characteristics 2006

Count of Dependent Students (15-24) Temporarily Absent

On this page:

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Classification

This variable counts the number of dependent students aged 15-24 years that were reported as temporarily absent from the family. Due to form limitations a maximum of three people can be reported and coded as temporarily absent from the dwelling.

Applicable to: Families which include dependent students aged 15-24 years

- 0 No dependent students (15-24 years) temporarily absent
- 1 One dependent student (15-24 years) temporarily absent
- 2 Two dependent students (15-24 years) temporarily absent
- 3 Three dependent students (15-24 years) temporarily absent
- @ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 5

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Count of Dependent Students (15-24) Temporarily Absent (CDSAF)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Count of Dependent Students (15-24) Temporarily Absent (CDSAF).

Count of Dependent Students (15-24) Temporarily Absent (CDSAF) is applicable to families which include dependent students aged 15-24 years, that is 14.5% of all families. Of these families, 6.0% reported that there were dependent students of this age group temporarily absent from the dwelling on Census Night.

The ABS has undertaken some preliminary evaluation of the quality of Census data which suggests that around 35% of family members who are temporarily absent from their usual address on Census Night are not included in the relevant section of the Census form (Q53). This is only partly explained by the reporting limitation of three persons per household.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is

put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Count of Non-Dependent Children Temporarily Absent (CNDAF) - Characteristics 2006

Count of Non-Dependent Children Temporarily Absent

On this page:

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Classification

This variable counts the number of non-dependent children that were reported as temporarily absent from the family. Due to form limitations a maximum of three people can be reported and coded as temporarily absent from the dwelling.

Applicable to: Families which include non-dependent children

- 0 No non-dependent children temporarily absent
- 1 One non-dependent child temporarily absent
- 2 Two non-dependent children temporarily absent
- 3 Three non-dependent children temporarily absent
- @ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 5

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Count of Non-Dependent Children Temporarily Absent (CNDAF)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Count of Non-Dependent Children Temporarily Absent (CNDAF).

Count of Non-Dependent Children Temporarily Absent (CDNAF) is applicable to families which include non-dependent children, that is 19.4% of all families. Of these families, 11.6% reported that there were non-dependent children temporarily absent from the dwelling on Census Night.

The ABS has undertaken some preliminary evaluation of the quality of Census data which suggests that around 35% of family members who are temporarily absent from their usual address on Census Night are not included in the relevant section of the Census form (Q53). This is only partly explained by the reporting limitation of three persons per household.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is

put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

This page last updated 20 May 2011

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Family (CPAF) - Characteristics 2006

Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Family

On this page:

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Classification

This variable counts the total number of people who were reported as temporarily absent from the family. Due to form limitations a maximum of three people can be reported and coded as temporarily absent in the dwelling. The count of persons temporarily absent includes husbands/wives, de facto partners, and children (i.e. dependent children under 15 years, dependent students (15-24) and non-dependent children).

Applicable to: Families in family households

- 0 No persons temporarily absent from family
- 1 One person temporarily absent from family
- 2 Two persons temporarily absent from family
- 3 Three persons temporarily absent from family
- @ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 5

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Family (CPAF)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Family (CPAF).

Of all families, 7.6% reported that a family member was absent from the dwelling on Census Night.

Data used to produce Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Family (CPAF) is captured automatically from check box responses of those reported as being temporarily absent and then subject to a further process so that only persons forming a family nucleus (that is partners, children and grandchildren) are included in CPAF. Family members who are not identified as

members of the family nucleus are deleted.

The ABS has undertaken some preliminary evaluation of the quality of Census data which suggests that around 35% of family members who are temporarily absent from their usual address on Census Night are not included in the relevant section of the Census form (Q53). This is only partly explained by the reporting limitation of three persons per household.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Household (CPAD) - Characteristics

Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Household

On this page:

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Classification

This variable counts the total number of people who were reported as temporarily absent from the household. Due to form limitations a maximum of three people can be reported and coded as temporarily absent. This count includes husbands/wives, de facto partners unrelated flatmates or co-tenants and children (i.e. dependent children under 15 years, dependent students (15-24) and non-dependent children).

Applicable to: Family and group households

- 0 No persons temporarily absent from household
- 1 One person temporarily absent from household
- 2 Two persons temporarily absent from household
- 3 Three persons temporarily absent from household
- @ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 5

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Household (CPAD)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Household (CPAD).

Count of Persons Temporarily Absent from Household (CPAD) is applicable to 63.6% of households. Of these, 7.6% reported persons temporarily absent from the dwelling on Census Night.

The data used to produce CPAD is captured automatically from check box responses of persons reported as temporarily absent in Q53 on the Census form. This data is subject to a family coding process so that only those persons who form a family nucleus (that is partners, children and grandchildren aged under 15 years), and unrelated persons living in group households are

included. Family members who are not identified as members of the family nucleus are not included in CPAD.

Preliminary evaluation of the quality of Census data undertaken by the ABS suggests that around 35% of family members and over 40% of unrelated people who are temporarily absent from their usual address on Census Night are not included in the relevant section of the Census form (Q53). This is only partly explained by the reporting limitation of three persons per household. In addition, across 29,985 dwellings, a number of Boarders/Lodgers and Unrelated household members who were listed as temporarily absent on the Census form were erroneously excluded when HHCD was derived. If these persons had been included during processing, the number of dwellings categorised as Lone Person Households would decrease by 1.7% while the number of Group Households would increase by 12.0%. In addition, a number of grandchildren (less than 500 in total) identified as temporarily absent were excluded when counts of persons temporarily absent from dwellings were produced for South Australia, Tasmania and the ACT.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Country of Birth of Father - Characteristics 2006

Country of Birth of Father

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

There are three country of birth variables:

- Country of Birth of Person (BPLP), which records a person's country of birth;
- Country of Birth of Mother (BPFP), which indicates whether a person's mother was born in Australia or overseas, and;
- Country of Birth of Father (BPMP), which indicate whether a person's father was born in Australia or overseas.

In Censuses prior to 2006, these variables were referred to as 'Birthplace' rather than 'Country of birth'. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Image of Question

<p>14 Was the person's father born in Australia or overseas?</p> <p>• Remember to mark box like this: —</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Australia</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Overseas</p>
---	--

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: All persons

1. Born in Australia

2. Born overseas

& Not stated

V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 4

Quality Statement - Country of Birth of Father (BPMP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of census data. The following information should be considered when viewing data on Country of Birth of Father (BPMP).

Note: Prior to 2006, this variable was referred to as Birthplace of Male Parent rather than Country of Birth of Father.

This data was captured automatically from mark-box responses on the form, so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data were undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 7.0% compared with 4.5% for 2001. This increase is partly attributable to the 4.2% of persons who were in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night, but did not return a completed form. Persons were imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However, the values for Country of Birth of Father (BPMP) remain not stated. In 2006, 2.9% of persons (577,114) returned a form but did not answer the country of birth of father question. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

In a small proportion of cases (testing indicates that this is less than 1%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for BPMP, respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases, responses were accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses were rejected.

Additional sources of country of birth information are available from ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Australian Labour Statistics, Apr 2004** (cat. no. 6105.0), which contains a feature article titled: Spotlight on Country of Birth
- **Australian Demographic Statistics, Sep 2004** (cat. no. 3101.0), which contains a feature article titled: Population by Country of Birth
- **Australian Social Trends (various years)** (cat. no. 4102.0), which contain a number of articles relating to country of birth
- **Perspectives on Migrants, 2007** (cat. no. 3416.0), which contains country of birth data in a series of articles about a range of migrant and ethnicity related issues.

The only regular data on country of birth of parents published by the ABS are derived from birth and marriage registrations.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- the Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary , 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Country of Birth of Mother - Characteristics 2006

Country of Birth of Mother

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

There are three country of birth variables:

- Country of Birth of Person (BPLP), which records a person's country of birth;
- Country of Birth of Mother (BPFP), which indicates whether a person's mother was born in Australia or overseas, and;
- Country of Birth of Father (BPMP), which indicate whether a person's father was born in Australia or overseas.

In Censuses prior to 2006, these variables were referred to as 'Birthplace' rather than 'Country of birth'. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Image of Question

15 Was the person's mother born in Australia or overseas? • Remember to mark box like this:	<input type="radio"/> Australia <input type="radio"/> Overseas
--	---

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: All persons

1. Born in Australia
2. Born overseas
- & Not stated
- V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 4

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Country of Birth of Mother (BPFP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of census data. The following information should be considered when viewing data on Country of Birth of Mother (BPFP).

Note: Prior to 2006, this variable was referred to as Birthplace of Female Parent rather than Country of Birth of Mother.

This data was captured automatically from mark-box responses on the form, so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data were undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 7.1% compared with 5.6% for 2001. This increase is partly attributable to the 4.2% of persons who were in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night, but did not return a completed form. Persons were imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However, the values for Country of Birth of Mother (BPFP) remain not stated. In 2006, 3.0% of persons (594,083) returned a form but did not answer the country of birth of mother question. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 1%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for BPFP, respondents were asked to only mark one response). In these cases, responses were accepted in the order they appeared on the form and the extra responses were rejected.

Additional sources of country of birth information are available from ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Australian Labour Statistics, Apr 2004** (cat. no. 6105.0), which contains a feature article titled: Spotlight on Country of Birth
- **Australian Demographic Statistics, Sep 2004** (cat. no. 3101.0), which contains a feature article titled: Population by Country of Birth
- **Australian Social Trends (various years)**(cat. no. 4102.0), which contain a number of articles relating to country of birth
- **Perspectives on Migrants, 2007** (cat. no. 3416.0), which contains country of birth data in a series of articles about a range of migrant and ethnicity related issues.

The only regular data on country of birth of parents published by the ABS are derived from birth and marriage registrations.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- the Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and

- the [2006 Census Dictionary](#) (cat. no. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

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[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary , 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Country of Birth of Person - Characteristics 2006

Country of Birth of Person

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

There are three country of birth variables:

- Country of Birth of Person (BPLP), which records a person's country of birth;
- Country of Birth of Mother (BPFP), which indicates whether a person's mother was born in Australia or overseas, and;
- Country of Birth of Father (BPMP), which indicate whether a person's father was born in Australia or overseas.

In Censuses prior to 2006, these variables were referred to as 'Birthplace' rather than 'Country of birth'. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Image of Question

12 In which country was the person born?

* Remember to mark box like this: ■

<input type="radio"/> Australia ► Go to 14
<input type="radio"/> England
<input type="radio"/> New Zealand
<input type="radio"/> Italy
<input type="radio"/> Viet Nam
<input type="radio"/> Scotland
<input type="radio"/> Greece
Other – please specify
<input type="text"/>

[Back to top](#)

Classification

1. Oceania and Antarctica
2. North-West Europe

3. Southern and Eastern Europe
4. North Africa and the Middle East
5. South-East Asia
6. North-East Asia
7. Southern and Central Asia
8. Americas
9. Sub-Saharan Africa

Supplementary Codes:

- 0000. Inadequately described
- 0001. At sea
- 0002. Not elsewhere classified
- &&& Not stated
- VVVV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories:

- one digit level 9
- two digit level 36
- four digit level 284

More Detailed Description

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Country of Birth of Person (BPLP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of census data. The following information should be considered when viewing data on Country of Birth of Person (BPLP).

Note: Prior to 2006, this variable was referred to as Birthplace of Individual rather than Country of Birth of Person.

Most of the data (87.1%) was captured automatically from mark-box responses, so the risk of processing error is minimal. The remainder (written responses), were coded by an automatic reading and coding process (12.4%), or coded clerically (0.5%). All coding was subject to sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 6.9% compared with 5.5% for 2001. This increase is partly attributable to the 4.2% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night, but did not return a completed form. Persons were imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However, the values for Country of Birth of Person (BPLP) remain not stated. In 2006, 2.8% of persons (552,240) returned a form but did not answer the country of birth question. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

In a small number of cases where country of birth was not stated, the category 'born in Australia' was derived. This occurred when the person's father or mother was counted in the same dwelling and reported that they were born in Australia. Derivation is the process where some variables (where no response has been provided), are assigned values based on responses from other family members present in the same dwelling. Variables that may be derived from responses given by other family members present in the same dwelling are:

- Country of Birth of Person (BPLP)
- Country of Birth of Father (BPMP)

- Country of Birth of Mother (BPFP)
- Language Spoken at Home (LANP).

If insufficient information is provided to derive a response for these items, they are determined to be 'Not stated'.

Inadequately described responses (written responses unable to be coded), comprised 0.06% of the data, down from 0.10% in 2001.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 1%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for BPLP, respondents were asked to only mark one response). In these cases, responses were accepted in the order they appeared on the form and the extra responses were rejected.

The Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), used to code birthplace responses from the 2006 Census has been updated to reflect changes in official names and regional alliances between censuses. Since the 2001 Census, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia ceased to exist, and in June 2006, Serbia and Montenegro separated. However, many persons recorded their birthplace as Yugoslavia (33,028) and these were coded to South Eastern Europe, nfd. This is the major contributing factor to the increase in the number of persons recorded in this category between 2001 and 2006, as shown in the following table.

SACC category	2001 Census	2006 Census
3200 South Eastern Europe, nfd	4,758	33,357
3213 Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	55,365	n/a
3214 Montenegro	n/a	847
3215 Serbia	n/a	17,328

n/a not applicable

Note: For users wanting to compare data relating to people born in Serbia across censuses, an alternative option would be to use ancestry data (ANCP).

A question on country of birth is included in most ABS population surveys, although detailed birthplace information is not available from these surveys because of high sampling error on estimates for small geographic areas and for many small birthplace groups.

Additional sources of country of birth information are available from ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Australian Labour Statistics, Apr 2004** (cat. no. 6105.0), which contains a feature article titled: Spotlight on Country of Birth
- **Australian Demographic Statistics, Sep 2004** (cat. no. 3101.0), which contains a feature article titled: Population by Country of Birth
- **Australian Social Trends (various years)** (cat. no. 4102.0), which contain a number of articles relating to country of birth
- **Perspectives on Migrants, 2007** (cat. no. 3416.0), which contains country of birth data in a series of articles about a range of migrant and ethnicity related issues.

Regular statistics on overseas arrivals and departures classified by country of birth are available from passenger cards required to be completed by each person entering or leaving Australia.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
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[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Dwelling Location (DLOD) - Characteristics 2006

Dwelling Location

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

Dwelling Location (DLOD) applies to private dwellings, and describes the location of dwellings other than 'typical' private dwellings. The majority of private dwellings will appear in the 'Other' category. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Private dwellings

1. Caravan/residential park or camping ground
 2. Marina
 3. Manufactured home estate
 4. Retirement village (self-contained)
 5. Other
- @ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 6

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Dwelling Location (DLOD)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Dwelling Location (DLOD).

Data is captured automatically from check box responses so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

This data is collected by the Census Collector. In the small proportion of cases where Dwelling Location (DLOD) was not marked, values for DLOD are imputed using information collected from

surrounding dwellings.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Dwelling Structure (STRD) - Characteristics 2006

Dwelling Structure

On this page:

Description

Classification

Quality Statement

Description

This variable classifies the structure of private dwellings enumerated in the Census. The information is determined by the Census collector.

Data on dwelling structure are used to monitor changes in housing characteristics, to help formulate housing policies and to review existing housing stock.

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Private dwellings

Separate house

Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc.

Flat, unit or apartment

Other dwelling

&& Not stated

@@ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 12

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Dwelling Structure (STRD)

Interpreting Census counts of people in the category 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out'

Issue: Many users analyse the Census counts of people categorised as being enumerated in 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out'. Much of this analysis further focuses on this count where the people being enumerated also either:

- a) Stated they were counted at home at their Usual Residence on Census night

or

b) Stated they were not counted at home on Census Night but reported having No Usual Address.

The data analysed excludes the Overseas Visitors category.

This update brings together some of the information that has been used in answering user queries regarding interpretation of the results of their analyses of Census information.

Background to field procedures:

A special enumeration strategy is targeted at known locations, identified by a variety of organisations, where people may be sleeping out on Census night, such as under bridges, in parks, in cars, in makeshift camps, etc. Special collectors use a special short form, with just 6 questions (age, sex, marital status, Indigenous status, birth country and income), to interview people found sleeping out. Responses for Census items not included on the short form are 'not stated' in the data, and some of the items asked may also appear as 'not stated' if the person did not respond to that question. About 3,000 such forms were used in the 2006 Census.

Census Collectors may also interview potentially homeless people living in improvised dwellings or sleeping out using the mainstream household form, via personal interview, and instructions note that some questions will not be relevant so can be ignored, such as the dwelling questions.

It is likely that, despite the best efforts of Census collectors, some people who were sleeping in improvised dwellings or sleeping out on Census night will be missed.

Many other people are enumerated in the 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out' structure category. ABS Census mainstream field collectors are asked to record a dwelling structure for each dwelling which they approach to enumerate in the Census. One of the dwelling categories is 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out', and the collector instructions ask them to include, in addition to campers, sleepers out and makeshift dwellings, any '... garage, shed etc occupied on a permanent or semi-permanent basis.'

For Census output purposes, the dwelling structure category 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out' can be cross tabulated by the 'usual residence' stated by any household members enumerated at the dwelling. Some people staying in these dwellings will be visiting away from home and report their usual address as being elsewhere. Others may state that they are being enumerated at their usual address, or state that they have no usual address. There were 16,375* people in the category 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out' on Census night 2006 and for whom this was either their usual address or they had no usual address.

Some of the 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out' dwellings enumerated on Census night would not be considered 'habitable' in terms of normal community standards. However, some of the 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out' dwellings would be considered 'habitable' in terms of normal community standards, such as sheds or garages with internal plumbing and other facilities. For example, some people may be living in a shed or garage erected on their land while their new home is under construction, or in a converted garage. All such housing circumstances fall within this Census dwelling structure classification 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out'.

Another example of people staying in improvised dwellings and possibly being enumerated 'at their usual address' on Census night includes building and construction workers. They may be sleeping in transportable sheds that travel with them from job to job. When completing the Census form this shed will be the place that they either have lived in, or intend to live in, for 6 months or more in the Census year, even though they may have a family home elsewhere that they 'visit' in between jobs. Again, such housing circumstances fall within this Census dwelling

structure classification 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out'.

Looking at the counts:

In understanding the quite varied circumstances of the 16,375 people described above as living in an 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out', and either that dwelling was their usual residence or they had no usual residence, a range of Census characteristics are available.

Some summary measures that may be useful in understanding the population of people in 2006 that the Census counted as living in an 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out', and either that dwelling was their usual residence or they had no usual residence, include:

- . Employment - 37% of those people aged 15 years and over were employed.
- . Tenure type - 25% lived on properties which they had mortgaged, and the average reported monthly mortgage repayment they made was about \$1,250 per month.
- . Size of dwelling - 26% were living in dwellings of 3 or more bedrooms.
- . Connection to infrastructure - 18% of those people lived in dwellings with dial-up internet connection, and a further 15% had a broadband service connected.
- . Vehicles - 41% were enumerated in households that had two or more vehicles usually garaged there.
- . Income - 19% of those people aged 15 years and over reported incomes of \$600 or more per week.

These percentages are based on the above 16,375 population including those who did not respond to the question. Lack of response may be due to lack of opportunity to answer the question as it was not asked of the respondent or because the respondent themselves had the opportunity but chose not to respond. Characteristics of people who did not respond to the item are not known, therefore proportions for selected characteristics may be slightly understated.

Understanding the nature of these counts can be further improved by looking simultaneously at several of these characteristics.

It should be noted that the rates reported above are the averages for these selected characteristics across the Australia-wide population of 16,375 people categorised as living in 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out' and this was either their usual address or they had no usual address. However, the proportions do vary significantly across geography, and analyses for smaller areas should look specifically at the characteristics for the area under study.

* This figure excludes around 500 persons enumerated in Tweed Heads who were mistakenly coded into the 'Improvised home, tent, sleepers out' dwelling category.

General Data Quality

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Dwelling Structure (STRD).

Data is captured automatically from check box responses so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

This data is collected by the Census Collector. In the small proportion of cases where Dwelling Structure (STRD) was not marked, values for STRD were imputed using information collected from surrounding dwellings. However some residual non-response does remain in the data - 0.1% compared with 0.9% for 2001.

Sometimes the Collector may find it difficult to differentiate a separate house from a semi-

detached house when dwellings are close together and this may have a small effect on comparisons for these categories between 2001 and 2006.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Dwelling Type (DWTD) - Characteristics 2006

Dwelling Type

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable classifies all dwellings into the basic dwelling types.

Note that the definition includes occupied residences in caravan parks, marinas, manufactured homes estates and accommodation for age/retired (self care). [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: All dwellings

1. Occupied private dwelling
2. Unoccupied private dwelling
3. Non-private dwelling
4. Migratory
5. Off-shore
6. Shipping

Total number of categories: 6

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Dwelling Type (DWTD)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Dwelling Type (DWTD).

This data is derived from information recorded by the Form Collector and in subsequent processing, not by the person completing the form..

Collectors sometimes find it difficult to determine whether dwellings are occupied or unoccupied on Census Night, and where there is insufficient information to make this distinction the dwelling normally will be deemed to be occupied. The ABS plans to do further analysis on the proportion

of non-responding dwellings which may have been unoccupied on Census night.

It is also becoming increasingly difficult within some classes of dwellings to determine whether they are private or non-private dwellings (NPDs). For example hotels or resorts which are typically NPDs may also provide long term, self contained accommodation which are features of private dwellings. Retirement villages may offer self contained accommodation, accommodation with communal facilities (a feature of NPDs), or they may provide both.

While overall the data for Dwelling Type (DWTD) should not be significantly affected by these issues, some caution should be exercised when using this variable for small populations.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Employment Type (EMTP) - Characteristics 2006

Employment Type

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

New for 2006 - previously part of the Labour Force Status (LFS06P) variable.

Employment Type classifies all employed people to either employees, owner manager of incorporated enterprises, owner manager of unincorporated enterprises, or contributing family workers on the basis of their main job. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Employed persons

1. Employee not owning business
 2. Owner managers of incorporated enterprises
 3. Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises
 4. Contributing family workers
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable
V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 7

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Employment Type (EMTP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Employment Type (EMTP).

Employment Type (EMTP) is a new variable for 2006. EMTP categorises employed people (in relation to their main job in the week prior to Census Night) as either an employee, an owner

manager of incorporated enterprise, an owner manager of unincorporated enterprise or a contributing family worker.

Employment Type (EMTP) data is derived from responses to a number questions on the form. Data is captured automatically from three check box responses (Questions 34, 35, and 36 on the household form) so the risk of processing error is low. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for EMTP in 2006 was 1.0%. Unlike some other census variables the non-response rate is not affected by persons imputed into dwellings that did not return a Census form, as EMTP is only applicable for persons with a labour force status of employed.

EMTP in the Census and other ABS Household Surveys

Employment type is now collected in most ABS labour surveys, including the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) and a range of surveys run as a supplement to the LFS (such as the Forms of Employment Survey). Although not a standard output from the LFS, counts of employees (not owning own business), owner managers of incorporated and unincorporated businesses and contributing family workers can be determined. There are a number of reasons why EMTP in the Census may differ from that collected in the Labour Force Survey and supplementary surveys. These include differences in the scope, coverage, timing, measurement of underlying labour force concepts and collection methodologies of the collections. Labour Force estimates of the employed are generally higher as Census data is unadjusted for underenumeration and only includes those usual residents present in Australia on Census Night. In addition, Census estimates are also affected by non-response (persons imputed into dwellings that do not return a Census form, as well as persons who are included on a completed form but did not respond to relevant labour force questions). Labour Force Survey estimates only include fully responding questionnaires and are adjusted to account for any non-response. (In the table below, persons for whom EMTP was not stated have been removed to facilitate comparison).

The table below shows counts and proportions of employment type for the Census and the Labour Force Survey. The Census has a higher proportion of employees not owning business and contributing family workers, while the LFS has a higher proportion of owner managers of unincorporated enterprises. This reflects that the LFS uses between five and ten questions to determine employment type (depending on whether the person was absent from work in the reference week), while the census uses only three. Also in the Labour Force Survey, trained interviewers are able to prompt for more information if the initial response is vague.

Distribution of Employment Type, 2006 Census and Labour Force Survey August 2006 for Employed Persons

	2006 Census		LFS August, 2006	
	No.	%	No.	%
Employee not owning business	7,369.6	81.7	8,177.8	80.4
Owner managers of incorporated enterprises	619.4	6.9	690.4	6.8
Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises	873.4	9.7	1,275.2	12.5
Contributing family workers	155.13	1.7	28.5	0.3
Total	9,017.5	100.0	10,172.0	100.0

In the 2001 Census, a related variable, 'Status in Employment' (which has similarities to concepts being measured in EMTP), was incorporated in the variable LFSP (Labour Force Status). This categorised employed people as either an employee, an employer, an own account worker or a

contributing family worker and is a standard output from the LFS. The table below shows the relationship between employment type in EMTP and "Status in employment".

Relationship between Employment type and Status in employment

Employment Type	Status in Employment
Employees not owning own business	Employees
Owner managers of incorporated enterprises	
Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises	Employers (employs people)
Contributing family worker	Own account workers (does not employ people) Contributing family worker

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

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[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Family Blending (FBLF) - Characteristics 2006

Family Blending

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable is new for the 2006 Census. It classifies families based on the parent-child relationships within the family. This variable is applicable to couple families. When coding families to the Family Blending classification, temporarily absent children are taken into account. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Couple families with children

1. Couple family
2. Intact family with no other children present
3. Step family with no other children present
4. Blended family with no other children present
5. Intact family with other children present
6. Step family with other children present
7. Blended family with other children present
8. Other couple family with other children only
9. Not applicable

Total number of categories: 8

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Family Blending (FBLF)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Family Blending (FBLF).

Family blending data is derived mainly from the Question 5 on the Census household form, which asks for each person's relationship to Person 1 on the form. Reporting relationships in respect of

Person 1 only, can make it difficult to establish the relationships which exist in a household, and even more so in those dwellings containing blended families. In some cases, additional information such as surname, usual residence and marital status is also used during data processing to help determine these relationships. In cases where some members of a household are away from home on Census Night, members of the family nucleus (parents or children) who were temporarily absent on Census Night (and identified as such in Question 53 on the Census Household form) are taken into account when deriving Family Blending (FBLF).

In some cases children are listed on the Census form as Person 2. However if both parents are usual residents, the response "Child of both Person 1 and Person 2" is not available in the relationship question (Q5) for Person 2. In these cases an attempt is made to establish whether the child was a step-child or child of both parents using information such as surname. Preliminary analysis of the data indicates that despite these attempts there may be a small proportion of children coded to "step-child" who may be a child of both parents. Conversely, there may be cases where the child of reference person (and a step-child of the partner) is incorrectly coded as a child of both parents.

For more information about quality issues relating to family data refer to FMCF (Family Composition).

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Family Composition (FMCF) - Characteristics 2006

Family Composition

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

For the 2006 Census, the Family Composition (FMCF) variable replaces Family Type (FMTF) which was used in previous Censuses.

Families are classified in terms of the relationships that exist between a single family reference person and each other member of that family. The Family Composition (FMCF) variable distinguishes between different types of families based on the presence or absence of couple relationships, parent-child relationships, child dependency relationships or other familial relationships, in that order of preference. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Families in family households

1. Couple Family With No Children
2. Couple Family With Children
3. One Parent Family
9. Other Family
- @@@ Not applicable

Total number of categories:

one digit level 4

two digit level 6

three digit level 10

four digit level 17

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Family Composition (FMCF)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Family Composition (FMCF).

In the Census, data on different types of families and households is mainly derived from the relationship questions (Questions 5 and 53 on the Census household form), which asks for each person's relationship to Person 1 on the form. Relationship data was captured as check box responses in 92% of cases, with the remainder coded from written responses. During data processing families are then identified and created based around a 'family reference person'. In 95.4% of cases Person 1 is the family reference person. For the remaining 4.6% of cases, where a child or non-family member was listed as Person 1, a more appropriate person is selected.

For many households, identifying the family structure for that dwelling is quite straightforward. However, across the community, a wide variety of living arrangements exists and family structures can be complex and dynamic in nature, and so the quality of family data in the Census is partly dependent on people's ability to describe these relationships within the constraints of the generalised questionnaire format required by a Census. Reporting relationships in respect of Person 1 only, can make it difficult to establish all the relationships which exist in a household, or to identify whether more than one family is living in the dwelling. In some cases, additional information such as name, usual residence and marital status is also used during data processing to help determine these relationships.

In Census data, a maximum of three families are able to be identified within a single dwelling, in accordance with existing ABS standards. While this may have only a small effect on total family numbers generally, the impact may be more significant among population groups which are more likely to live in multi-generational households or with larger numbers of extended family members.

Note that family relationships are only identified for the 94.4% of persons who are in their usual residence on Census night. This means that entire families who were away from home on Census Night (on holiday, for example) will not be counted as such in the Census (however, individual family members remain in the person counts as visitors to a dwelling on Census Night). In addition, for persons imputed into dwellings for which no form was received, there is no relationship data and no families can therefore be identified.

In cases where some members of a family are away from home on Census Night, members of the family nucleus (parents or children) who were temporarily absent on Census Night (and identified as such in Question 53 on the Census Household form) are taken into account when deriving families. However, identifying families and family structures may be difficult in some of these cases (for example, where both parents were temporarily absent from the home on Census Night). It should be noted here, that the ABS has undertaken some preliminary evaluation of the quality of Census data which suggests that around 35% of family members who are temporarily absent from their usual address on Census Night are not included in the relevant section of the Census form (Q53). This is only partly explained by the reporting limitation of three persons per household.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

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[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

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Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Family/Household Reference Person Indicator (RPIP) - Characteristic 2006

Family/Household Reference Person Indicator

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

The Family/Household Reference Person Indicator (RPIP) identifies the household member used in Census coding as the starting point for identifying the relationships between usual residents of a household. Familial relationships are defined in terms of the relationship between the family reference person and all other family members. [More Detailed Description](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Person in family, group, lone person households

Reference person in a family household

- 1 Reference person in primary family
- 2 Reference person in second family
- 3 Reference person in third family

Reference person in non-family household

- 4 Reference person in non-family household

Other

- 5 Other household member

@ Not applicable

✓ Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 7

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Family/Household Reference Person Indicator (RPIP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Family/Household Reference Person Indicator (RPIP).

Responses to the relationship question (Q5 on the household form) are the basis for determining household and family composition. These responses are asked in respect of Person 1 on the Census form. Person 1 is the "reference person" for 95.4% of family reference persons and 99.3% of non-family reference persons. In the remaining cases, a more appropriate person on the form is chosen during clerical coding. For example, an adult is chosen rather than a child, or in the event of multiple family households additional reference persons are chosen.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Family Income (FINF) - Characteristics 2006

Family Income

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable is the sum of the Individual Incomes (INCP) of each family member present in the household on Census Night. Family income only applies to classifiable families in occupied private dwellings. If any person aged 15 years and over is temporarily absent, or does not state their income, then the Family Income (FINF) is not derived for that family. Family income is not applicable to non-family households such as group households or lone person households; or to people in non-private dwellings. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Families in family households

1. Negative income
2. Nil income
3. \$1-\$149 (\$1-\$7,799)
4. \$150-\$249 (\$7,800-\$12,999)
5. \$250-\$349 (\$13,000-\$18,199)
6. \$350-\$499 (\$18,200-\$25,999)
7. \$500-\$649 (\$26,000-\$33,799)
8. \$650-\$799 (\$33,800-\$41,599)
9. \$800-\$999 (\$41,600-\$51,999)
10. \$1,000-\$1,199 (\$52,000-\$62,399)
11. \$1,200-\$1,399 (\$62,400-\$72,799)
12. \$1,400-\$1,699 (\$72,800-\$88,399)
13. \$1,700-\$1,999 (\$88,400-\$103,999)
14. \$2,000-\$2,499 (\$104,000-\$129,999)
15. \$2,500-\$2,999 (\$130,000-\$155,999)
16. \$3,000-\$3,499 (\$156,000-\$181,999)
17. \$3,500-\$3,999 (\$182,000-\$207,999)
18. \$4,000 or more (\$208,000 or more)
19. Partial income stated
20. All incomes not stated

21. Not applicable

Total number of categories: 21

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

This page last updated 20 May 2011

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Family Number (FNOF) - Characteristics 2006

Family Number

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable indicates whether the family is the primary, second or third family in a household. Families in one family households are always classified as primary families. [More Detailed Description](#)

Classification

In a multiple family household this variable indicates whether a family as classified in Family Composition (FMCF) is either the primary, second or third family in the household. In a one family household Family Number is always Primary family.

Applicable to: Families in family households

- 1 Primary family
- 2 Second family
- 3 Third family
- @ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 4

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Family Number (FNOF)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Family Number (FNOF).

For more information about quality issues relating to family data refer to FMCF (Family Composition).

In multi-family households, the Primary family is normally the one with the most dependent children or in multi-generational households, the younger family. As an example, 70.9% of Primary families in multi-family households have dependent children (children under 15 years or dependent students aged 15 to 24) compared with 25.6% for Second families and 39.0% for Third families.

In Census data, a maximum of three families are able to be identified within a single dwelling, in accordance with existing ABS standards. While this may have only a small effect on total family numbers generally, the impact may be more significant among population groups which are more likely to live in multi-generational households or with large numbers of extended family members.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

This page last updated 20 May 2011

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Full/Part-Time Student Status (STUP) - Characteristics 2006

Full/Part-Time Student Status

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records the full/part-time status of students. [More Detailed Description](#)

Classification

Applicable to: All persons

- 1 Not attending
- 2 Full-time student
- 3 Part-time student
- 4 Not stated-both institution (TYPP) and full/part-time status (STUP) not stated & Not stated-institution (TYPP) stated, full/part-time status (STUP) not stated
- V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 6

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Full/Part-Time Student Status (STUP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Full/Part-Time Student Status (STUP).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 7.5% compared with 4.2% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 3.9% of persons aged over 2 years, applicable to Full/Part-Time Student Status (STUP), who were in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons were imputed into these dwellings together with some

demographic characteristics. However the values for STUP remain not stated. Note that all persons aged 2 years and under, including imputed persons, have STUP set to 'No'. In 2001, 2.1% of persons aged over 2 years were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

The question for Full/Part-Time Student Status (STUP) followed a series of new questions on the Census form for 2006, and this may have had an impact on response rates.

The non-response rates include a small proportion of people (0.3% in 2006 and 0.2% in 2001) who did not indicate whether they were students at the Full/Part Time Student Status (STUP) question but went on to state the type of educational institution attended at the next question, Type of Educational Institution Attending (TYPP). The majority of these (70.2% in 2006 and 80.1% in 2001) were aged under 20 years of age. Children aged under 15 years comprised 58.3% and 70.9% of the population who did not indicate whether they were students at the Full/Part Time Student Status (STUP) question but went on to state the type of educational institution attended for the 2006 and 2001 Censuses, respectively.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is around 1%), respondents provide an incorrect number of responses (for STUP, respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

Additional sources of information regarding student status can be found in other ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Education and Work, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 6227.0, various years), which presents information from the Survey of Education and Work about the educational experience of people aged 15-64 years, especially in relation to their labour force status
- **Education and Training Experience, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 6278.0, various years), which presents information from the Survey of Education and Training about the education and training experiences of people aged 15-74 years.
- **Schools, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 4221.0, various years), which presents statistics from the National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC), covering government and non-government schools.

Note that the Survey of Education and Work and the Survey of Education and Training generally do not have non-response in the Full/Part-Time Student Status question due to using an interviewer based collection methodology.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- the Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.

[Back to top](#)



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Government/Non-government Employer Indicator (GNGP) - Characteristics 2006

Government/Non-Government Employer Indicator

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable classifies employed people aged 15 years and over according to whether they are employed in the government or non-government (private) sector. There are three categories for the three levels of government. That is, Commonwealth, state/territory and local government. Employed people who are not employed by the government are coded to the category Private sector. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Employed persons

1. Commonwealth Government
2. State/Territory Government
3. Local Government
4. Private sector
- & Not stated
- @ Not applicable
- ✓ Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 7

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Government/Non-Government Employer Indicator (GNGP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Government/Non-Government Employer Indicator (GNGP).

This data was captured from responses about the business name of employer and workplace address questions (Questions 40 and 41 on the Census household form) as well as the question

the on goods and services produced by the business of employer (Question 43).

The non-response rate for 2006 was 1.3% compared with 2.4% for 2001. Unlike some other census variables the non-response rate is not affected by persons imputed into non-responding dwellings, as Government/Non-Government Employer Indicator (GNGP) is only applicable for persons with a labour force status of employed.

Close to half of Government/Non-Government Employer Indicator (GNGP) data was coded as a by-product of coding for IND06P (Industry of Employment). This is when business name and address was matched to versions of the ABS's Business Register which has codes for both IND06P and GNGP. The remainder was coded based either on the INDP code they received (where a GNGP category was predominant for that particular industry class) or coded to private in the absence of any information suggesting that the business was government. In 2001, GNGP was coded using limited business name indexes with a default code of private. The 2006 approach is expected to have contributed to an improvement in the general quality of the data.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary , 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Highest Year of School Completed (HSCP) - Characteristics 2006

Highest Year of School Completed (HSCP)

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable (previously called Highest Level of Schooling Completed) records the highest level of primary or secondary school a person has completed. It is classified to the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED). The data are used to help build a picture of the education levels in each area of Australia and to assist in the planning of educational facilities. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>27 What is the highest year of primary or secondary school the person has <i>completed</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark one box only.• For persons who returned after a break to complete their schooling, mark the highest year completed when they last left.• See page 10 of the Census Guide for more information about year equivalents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Year 12 or equivalent<input type="checkbox"/> Year 11 or equivalent<input type="checkbox"/> Year 10 or equivalent<input type="checkbox"/> Year 9 or equivalent<input type="checkbox"/> Year 8 or below<input type="checkbox"/> Did not go to school
--	---

[Back to top](#)

Classification

This classification has changed since the 2001 Census. In 2001 it included a category 'Still at school'.

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over

1. Year 12 or equivalent
2. Year 11 or equivalent
3. Year 10 or equivalent
4. Year 9 or equivalent
5. Year 8 or below
6. Did not go to school
- & Not stated

@ Not applicable
V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 9

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Highest Year of School Completed (HSCP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Highest Year of School Completed (HSCP).

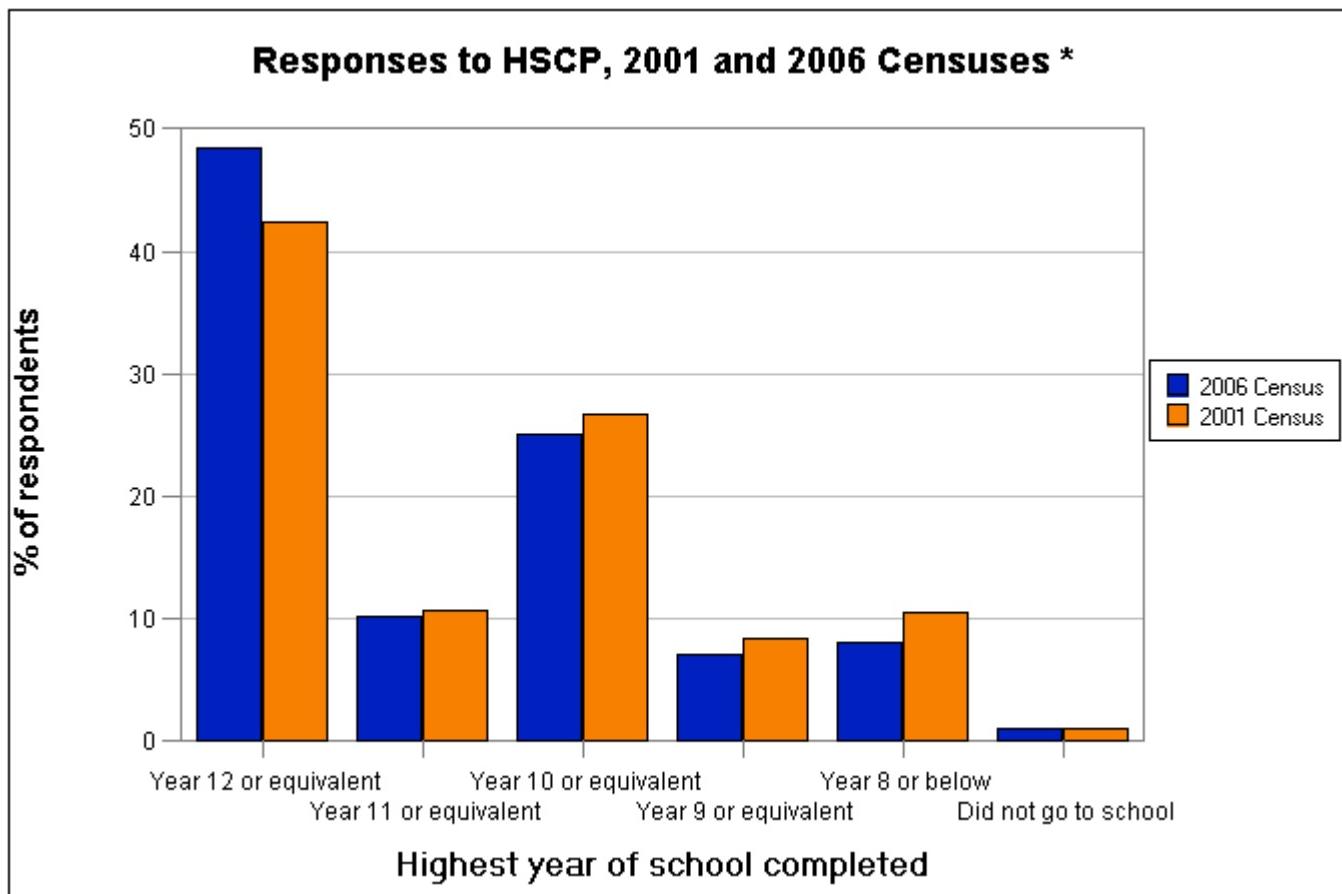
This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality. Only persons aged 15 years and over were asked to complete this question.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 9.9% compared with 7.7% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of persons (aged 15 years and over) in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. In these cases persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for Highest Year of School Completed (HSCP) remain not stated. In 2001, 1.7% of persons aged 15 years or over were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is around 1%), respondents provided more than the required number of responses (for HSCP, respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

The response 'Still at school', which accounted for 3.7% of all responses in 2001, was removed for 2006. Persons still attending school in 2006 were required to mark the response for the highest year they had completed. In addition the order of responses on the form was reversed between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, with 'Year 12' listed first for 2006 and the remainder of the responses following in descending order.

Both of these factors may have influenced the distributions of responses between the two censuses, as illustrated in Figure 1. To facilitate an overview of response distributions, non-response has not been included in the comparison. To further enhance comparability between the two censuses, all people who had indicated that they were attending school were removed from both the 2001 Census (via exclusion responses to the 'Still at school' category for HSCP) and the 2006 Census (via exclusion of respondents who indicated school attendance at the Type of Educational Institution (TYPP) question).



* The following data components were excluded from this analysis: non-response to HSCP for both the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, respondents who marked the 'Still at school' category for HSCP for the 2001 Census; and respondents who indicated that they were attending school in the Type of Educational Institution Attended (TYPP) question for the 2006 Census.

As can be seen from Figure 1, there was an increase of 6% in Year 12 responses for the 2006 Census (when Year 12 was listed as the first response option) and corresponding decreases in responses to the 'Year 8 or below' (-2.4%), 'Year 9' (-1.3%) and 'Year 10' (-1.6%) categories. However, the response distribution change between the 2006 and 2001 Censuses for 'Year 11' (-0.6%) and 'Did not go to school' (-0.1%) was minimal.

Additional sources of information regarding highest level of schooling completed can be found in other ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Education and Work, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 6227.0, various years), which presents information from the Survey of Education and Work.
- **Education and Training Experience, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 6278.0, various years), which presents information from the Survey of Education and Training.

Note that the Survey of Education and Work and the Survey of Education and Training generally do not have non-response in the Highest Year Schooling Completed question due to using an interviewer based collection methodology.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence,

interpretability, and accessibility);

- the Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the 2006 Census Dictionary (ABS Cat. No. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

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[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Hours Worked (HRSP) - Characteristics 2006

Hours Worked

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records the number of hours worked in all jobs held during the week before Census Night, by employed people aged 15 years and over. This excludes any time off but includes any overtime or extra time worked. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

44 Last week, how many hours did the person work in all jobs? • Add any overtime or extra time worked and subtract any time off. • Remember to mark box like this: —	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hours worked <input type="radio"/> None
---	---

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Employed persons

00-99 (0 to 99 hours singly)

&& Not stated

@@ Not applicable

VV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 103

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Hours Worked (HRSP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Hours Worked (HRSP).

This data is automatically captured from written numeric responses (and check box responses for "None") and so the chances of processing error are low. All outlying values are checked to ensure that they match the actual response on the form, as all numeric responses are accepted as reported. The data is also subject to normal sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for Hours Worked (HRSP) in 2006 was 2.8% compared with 3.0% in 2001. Unlike some other census variables the non-response rate for HRSP is not affected by persons who were imputed into dwellings that did not return a Census form, as HRSP is only applicable for persons with a labour force status of employed.

Comparison with Labour Force Survey data

The table below compares 2006 Census data with hours worked data from the August 2006 Labour Force Survey (the Labour Force Survey provides Australia's official estimates of employment and unemployment, and includes monthly information on hours worked). There are a range of differences in the scope, coverage, timing, measurement of underlying labour force concepts and collection methodologies of the two collections, and these are the major contributors to the differences in the counts of employed persons. Labour Force estimates of the employed population are generally higher than for Census data which is unadjusted for underenumeration and only includes those usual residents present in Australia on Census Night. In addition Census estimates are also affected by non-response (persons imputed into dwellings that do not return a Census form, as well as persons who are included on a completed form but did not respond to relevant labour force questions). LFS estimates only include fully responding questionnaires and are adjusted to account for any non-response. (In the table below, persons for whom Hours Worked (HRSP) was not stated have been removed to facilitate comparison).

The table below shows that in the Census, a higher proportion of persons reported working 40 hours, which may reflect some rounding in Census responses. In the Labour Force Survey trained interviewers are able to prompt for more exact hours worked if the initial response is vague.

Distribution of Hours Worked, 2006 Census and Labour Force Survey, August 2006, for Employed persons ('000s)

Total number of hours	2006 Census		LFS August, 2006	
	No.	%	No.	%
0 hours	338.0	3.8	525.9	5.2
1-15	985.8	11.1	1,193.1	11.7
16-29	1,123.9	12.7	1,403.7	13.8
30-34	575.5	6.5	813.9	8.0
35-39	1,533.6	17.3	1,606.2	15.8
40 hours	1,669.9	18.9	1,521.4	15.0
41-44	335.5	3.8	468.0	4.6
45-49	698.5	7.9	845.9	8.3
50-59	895.6	10.1	999.6	9.8
60 or more	694.3	7.8	790.4	7.8
*Total	8,850.6	100.0	10,168.0	100.0

*Employed persons who did not state their hours of work have been removed from Census data.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Household Composition (HHCD) - Characteristics 2006

Household Composition

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

For the 2006 Census, the Household Composition (HHCD) variable replaces Household Type (HTHD) which was used in previous Censuses.

This variable describes the type of household within a dwelling. Household composition indicates whether a family is present or not and whether or not other unrelated household members are present. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Occupied private dwellings

1. One Family Household
2. Multiple Family Household
3. Non-Family Household
4. Not Classifiable
- @@@ Not applicable

Total number of categories:

one digit level 5

two digit level 9

three digit level 11

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Household Composition (HHCD)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Household Composition (HHCD).

In the Census, data on the household composition of private dwellings is mainly derived from

Question 5 on the Census household form, which asks about each person's relationship to Person 1 on the form. This data is captured automatically as check box responses in 92% of cases, with the remainder obtained from written responses to the question.

During the processing of Census data, families and household types are identified and created based around a 'family or household reference person', and Household Composition (HHCD) is derived for each dwelling. For many households, identifying relationships to assist the coding of family or household structures for that dwelling is quite straightforward - for example, 21.0% of dwellings counted in the Census contained a lone person. However, across the community, a wide variety of living arrangements exists and family structures can be complex and dynamic in nature, and so the quality of family data in the Census is partly dependent on people's ability to describe these relationships within the constraints of the generalised questionnaire format required by a Census. Reporting relationships in respect of Person 1 only, can make it difficult to establish all the relationships which exist in a household, or to identify whether more than one family is living in the dwelling.

In cases where some members of a household are away from home on Census Night, members of the family nucleus (parents or children) and unrelated persons who were temporarily absent on Census Night (and identified as such in Question 53 on the Census household form) are taken into account when deriving HHCD. This allows for the identification of some family types, and also for distinguishing between lone person and group households. However, preliminary evaluation of the quality of Census data undertaken by the ABS suggests that around 35% of family members and over 40% of unrelated people who are temporarily absent from their usual address on Census Night are not included in the relevant section of the Census form (Q53). This is only partly explained by the reporting limitation of three persons per household. In addition, across 29,985 dwellings, a number of Boarders/Lodgers and Unrelated household members who were listed as temporarily absent on the Census form were erroneously excluded when HHCD was derived. If these persons had been included during processing, the number of dwellings categorised as Lone Person Households would decrease by 1.7% while the number of Group Households would increase by 12.0%.

The "Other not classifiable" category consists mainly of occupied dwellings where a form was not received and represents 4.2% of applicable dwellings (occupied private dwellings). In 2001, the "Other and not classifiable" category was 2.6%.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Household Income (HIND) - Characteristics 2006

Household Income

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable is the sum of the Individual Incomes (INCP) of each resident present in the household on Census Night. If any resident aged 15 years and over is temporarily absent, or does not state their income, then Household Income (HIND) is not derived for that household.

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Occupied private dwellings

Total number of categories: 21

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures

are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) Ranges (HLRD01) - Characteristics 2006

Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) Ranges

On this page:

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Classification

This variable contains the amount of money spent on housing loan repayments in ranges. Individual dollar amounts and other dollar ranges are available.

Applicable to: Occupied private dwellings being purchased (including being purchased under a rent/buy scheme)

- 1 \$1-\$99
- 2 \$100-\$149
- 3 \$150-\$249
- 4 \$250-\$399
- 5 \$400-\$549
- 6 \$550-\$649
- 7 \$650-\$749
- 8 \$750-\$849
- 9 \$850-\$949
- 10 \$950-\$1,049
- 11 \$1,050-\$1,199
- 12 \$1,200-\$1,399
- 13 \$1,400-\$1,599
- 14 \$1,600-\$1,999
- 15 \$2,000-\$2,399
- 16 \$2,400-\$2,999
- 17 \$3,000-\$3,999
- 18 \$4,000 and over
- 19 Not stated
- 20 Not applicable

Total number of categories: 20

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) ranges (HLRD01)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) ranges (HLRD01).

This data item is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and this represents 32.2% of all occupied private dwellings.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 8.0% compared with 5.6% for 2001. Unlike some other variables the non-response rate is not affected by the occurrence of non-responding dwellings, as these dwellings are not applicable for Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) ranges (HLRD01).

A contributing factor to non-response are the 2.2% of dwellings being purchased where the "Nil payments" box was marked. For these dwellings Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) dollar values (HLRD) is treated as not stated.

Household payments data is automatically captured from written numeric responses. This process is subject to some recognition error, particularly when decimal points are used. While the data is subject to normal sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality, numeric responses are accepted as reported. The data may then include a small proportion of dwellings with unusually large housing payment amounts, in the higher range categories.

If housing loan repayment responses are recorded as weekly or fortnightly amounts they are derived to a monthly figure.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) (HLRD) - Characteristics 2006

Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) ranges

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records the housing loan repayments being paid by a household to purchase the dwelling in which it was enumerated (also applicable to caravans).

[More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

58 How much does your household pay for this dwelling?	<p>\$ <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 00 per week OR \$ <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 00 per fortnight OR \$ <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 00 per month <input type="checkbox"/> Nil payments</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Include rent and mortgage repayments and site fees if the dwelling is a caravan or manufactured home in a caravan park or manufactured home estate.Exclude water rates, council rates, repairs, maintenance and other fees.Do not include cents.If no payments, please mark the 'Nil payments' box like this: 	

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Occupied private dwellings being purchased (including being purchased under a rent/buy scheme)

1. \$1-\$99
2. \$100-\$149
3. \$150-\$249
4. \$250-\$399
5. \$400-\$549
6. \$550-\$649
7. \$650-\$749
8. \$750-\$849
9. \$850-\$949
10. \$950-\$1,049

11. \$1,050-\$1,199
12. \$1,200-\$1,399
13. \$1,400-\$1,599
14. \$1,600-\$1,999
15. \$2,000-\$2,399
16. \$2,400-\$2,999
17. \$3,000-\$3,999
18. \$4,000 and over
19. Not stated
20. Not applicable

Total number of categories: 20

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) Ranges (HLRD01)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) Ranges (HLRD01).

This data item is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased; this represents 32.2% of all occupied private dwellings.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 8.0% compared with 5.6% for 2001. Unlike some other variables the non-response rate is not affected by the occurrence of non-responding dwellings, as these dwellings are not applicable for Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) Ranges (HLRD01).

A contributing factor to non-responses are the 2.2% of dwellings being purchased where the "Nil payments" box was marked. For these dwellings Housing Loan Repayments (monthly) Dollar Values (HLRD) is treated as not stated.

Household payments data is automatically captured from written numeric responses. This process is subject to some recognition error, particularly when decimal points are used. While the data is subject to normal sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality, numeric responses are accepted as reported. The data may then include a small proportion of dwellings with unusually large housing payment amounts, in the higher range categories.

If housing loan repayment responses are recorded as weekly or fortnightly amounts they are derived to a monthly figure.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census

form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Imputation Flag for Age (IFAGEP) - Characteristics 2006

Imputation Flag for Age

On this page:

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Classification

This variable indicates if a person's age was imputed.

Applicable to: All persons

1 Age not imputed

2 Age imputed

Total number of categories: 2

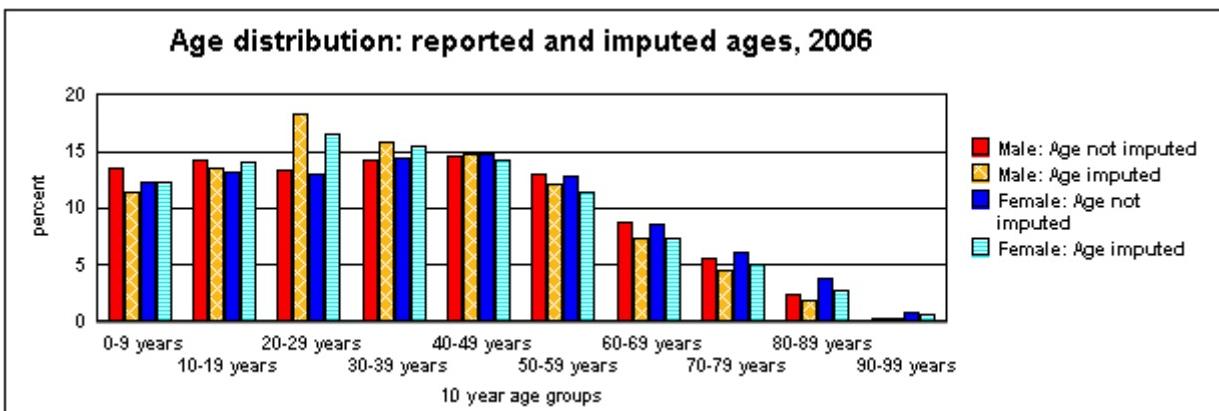
[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Imputation Flag for Age (IFAGEP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Imputation Flag for Age (IFAGEP).

For 2006, the number of persons who had their age imputed was 1,007,166 (5.0%), compared with 682,202 persons (3.6%) in 2001. Most of the imputation in 2006 is attributable to the 4.2% of persons (including overseas visitors) in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Person counts for these dwellings are imputed as well as some basic demographic data such as AGEP (Age). A small part of imputation is due to the 0.2% of persons who had their age set to 'not stated' during family coding where the age provided was not consistent with family coding rules. Please refer to the Data Quality Statement for AGEP (Age) for further information about the quality of age data.



As can be seen from the graph, the imputation process set a higher proportion of ages to the 20-29 years, and 30-39 years age groups, than was found in the reporting population. Conversely, imputation of people to older age groups was disproportionately lower than for the reporting population. These results were expected, and reflect the targeted demographic imputation methodology for dwellings that did not return a form.

Before imputation occurs checks are made to ensure that Imputation Flag for Age (IFAGEP) has identified the correct records (that is, all records where age is "not stated") for imputation.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (regarding data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 31/10/2008 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Imputation Flag for Number of Males and Females in Dwelling (IFNMFD) - Characteristics 2006

Imputation Flag for Number of Males and Females in Dwelling

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable indicates whether the number of males and females could be established for an occupied private dwelling, or needed to be imputed. In some cases, the collector is able to obtain the number of males and females despite not receiving a form. This flag indicates dwellings when no form is received and where all persons required all demographic characteristics (age, registered marital status and place of usual residence) to be imputed and other variables are set to 'Not stated' or 'Not applicable' as appropriate.

Classification

Applicable to: Occupied private dwellings

- 1 Not imputed - form returned
- 2 Not imputed - no form, count obtained by collector
- 3 Imputed - no form, no count obtained by collector
- @ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 4

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Imputation Flag for Number of Males and Females (IFNMFD)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Imputation Flag for Number of Males and Females (IFNMFD).

Most occupied private dwellings (95.8%) return a completed form so the number of persons, by sex is known. For the remainder, consisting of non-responding dwellings, a count of males and females needs to be established. The Collector was able to obtain a count of males and females for a further 1.40% (of occupied private dwellings), leaving 2.8% where the number of males and

females was imputed. Checks are made to ensure that Imputation Flag for Number of Males and Females (IFNMFD) has identified the correct records (that is, all records where male and female counts were not collected but are still required).

Collectors sometimes find it difficult to determine whether dwellings are occupied or unoccupied on Census Night, and where there is insufficient information to make this distinction the dwelling normally will be deemed to be occupied. The ABS plans to do further analysis on the proportion of non-responding dwellings which may have been unoccupied on Census night, as the resultant imputation for these dwellings would produce an overcount of persons.

For the purposes of imputation the count of males and females should be a "Census Night count" (a count of persons staying at the dwelling on Census Night). Realistically, however, the count provided to the Collector may on occasions be a "Usual resident count" (a count of all persons usually residing in the dwelling). A "usual resident count" may result in a small overcount in cases where usual residents are temporarily absent and enumerated elsewhere, (and to a lesser extent an undercount if there were visitors staying at the dwelling on Census Night). Once again, the ABS plans to do further analysis on this issue to determine its possible impact.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Imputation Flag for Place of Usual Residence (IFPURP) - Characteristics 2006

Imputation Flag for Place of Usual Residence

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable provides information on the level of response a person provided to the 'place of usual residence' question. Some people may provide an incomplete address of usual residence, and this flag indicates the geographic level at which imputation was then required. This variable can also be used to flag instances where people did not report their Usual Address Indicator Census Night (UAICP) and when it was possible to derive this indicator. For example, if a person was enumerated in Victoria and they provided a Tasmanian place of usual residence then UAICP is derived to 'Elsewhere in Australia'.

Classification

Applicable to: All persons

- 1 Not imputed - State/territory, SLA and CD stated
- 2 CD imputed - State/territory and SLA stated
- 3 SLA and CD imputed - Capital City provided
- 4 SLA and CD imputed - State/territory only provided
- 5 State/territory, SLA and CD imputed

Total number of categories:

one digit level 5

two digit level 15

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Imputation Flag for Place of Usual Residence (IFPURP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Imputation Flag for Place of Usual Residence (IFPURP).

For 2006, every person counted in the 2006 Census has been given a place of usual residence (PURP) down to the Collection District (CD) Level and the number of persons who had any level of PURP imputed (State, Statistical Local Area, or Collection District) was 1,157,614 (5.8%). In 2001, the lowest level of imputation was applied at the SLA level (and therefore the measurement of imputation in 2001 is not comparable with 2006). Most of the imputation in 2006 is attributable to the 4.1% of persons (including those imputed as overseas visitors) in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Person counts for these dwellings are imputed as well as some basic demographic data such as PURP.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Imputation Flag for Registered Marital Status (IFMSTP) - Characteristics 2006

Imputation Flag for Registered Marital Status

On this page:

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Classification

This variable indicates if a person's registered marital status was imputed.

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over

1 Marital status not imputed

2 Marital status imputed

@ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 3

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Imputation Flag for Registered Marital Status (IFMSTP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Imputation Flag for Registered Marital Status (IFMSTP).

For 2006, the number of persons who had their marital status imputed was 863,613 (5.4%), compared with 513,701 persons (2.7%) in 2001. Most of the imputation in 2006 is attributable to the 4.3% of persons (applicable to Registered Marital Status (MSTP)) in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Person counts for these dwellings are imputed as well as some basic demographic data such as MSTP.

Before imputation occurs checks are made to ensure that IFMSTP has identified the correct records (that is, all records where marital status is "not stated") for imputation.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Indigenous Status (INGP) - Characteristics 2006

Indigenous Status

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

The question about Indigenous origins on the Census form asks whether each person is of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.

Torres Strait Islanders are the descendants of the Indigenous people of the Torres Strait, between the tip of Cape York and Papua New Guinea.

[More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>7 Is the person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?</p> <p>• For persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, mark both 'Yes' boxes.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Aboriginal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Torres Strait Islander</p>
--	--

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: All persons

1. Non-Indigenous
2. Aboriginal
3. Torres Strait Islander
4. Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
& Not stated
- V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 6

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Indigenous Status (INGP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Indigenous Status (INGP).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

In order to achieve the most accurate count of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in both nominated discrete communities and elsewhere, the ABS put in place an Indigenous Enumeration Strategy as part of the collection of the 2006 Census. This strategy was developed to have sufficient flexibility to allow for the unique cultural aspects of Indigenous society which could affect the enumeration and to raise the quality of the count of this small but significant population group. In many nominated discrete communities, collection of Census information was undertaken by an interviewer, using a tailored interviewer household form, with 16.6% of persons of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin being enumerated using this method. Non-response to the question on Indigenous status was 0.7% when this approach was used. In other areas, Indigenous peoples were enumerated using standard procedures and forms. Special Collectors skilled in Indigenous languages and culture were available to assist in these areas if required.

The question on the standard household form asking whether a person is of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin was moved forward to Question 7 in 2006 from Question 17 in 2001. This may have improved response rates for the question, as early questions are more likely to be completed than those appearing later in the form. However, the overall non-response rate for Indigenous Status (INGP) for 2006 was 5.7% compared with 4.1% for 2001. Most of this non-response is attributable to 4.1% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form (i.e. dwelling non-response). In such cases, persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for INGP remain not stated and so these persons are not included in counts of the Indigenous population. The ABS makes adjustments for this when producing official population estimates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. In 2001, 2.2% of persons were imputed into a dwelling on Census Night for which no form was completed.

In some States and the Northern Territory, the number of Aboriginal people counted in the Census in some urban areas and in regional towns is below what might be expected based on 2001 Census results and evidence of growth in these areas since 2001 Census. The increase in dwelling non-response (and the resulting increase in INGP being not stated), is believed to have impacted on the 2006 counts of Indigenous peoples in some parts of Australia. For example, there is evidence to suggest that there has been population movement between some of the surrounding communities and Katherine and Alice Springs in the Northern Territory. This is supported by the 2006 Census counts. However, dwelling non-response in these two urban centres was the major contributor to INGP being not stated in these areas (INGP was not stated for 11.4% of usual residents in Katherine and 7.9% of those in Alice Springs).

Affected areas appear mostly to be where there were issues around the recruitment and retention of Census collectors (e.g. northern Western Australia and in Northern Territory). These areas tend to have higher numbers of non-responding dwellings, and evidence suggests that these dwellings may have contained higher than average proportions of persons of Indigenous origin. This includes evidence from both State/Territory Governments and from academic research around the movement of Aboriginal people between Indigenous communities and urban areas, both as a result of changing policies with respect to CDEP and other such programs, as well as the strong economy in some localised areas providing increased employment opportunities.

ABS preliminary analysis of the 2006 Census data have shown that counts may also be affected in areas where clusters of Indigenous households may be away or difficult to contact during the enumeration period, because of cultural, social or sporting events. The analysis, which is of those persons who were away from Indigenous communities on Census Night, suggests that many of these people were not included in the Census count for the Indigenous population. The findings also raise the possibility that the combination of an extended enumeration period in remote areas with a Census Night enumeration in non-remote areas may also have resulted in some persons who were away from home during this period being missed from the Indigenous count.

The ABS plans to do further evaluation work on the quality of Indigenous counts, in particular in urban areas, and of response levels for INGP. In the meantime, below is a list of SLAs for which Census counts of Indigenous people have declined significantly between 2001 and 2006.

Western Australia

In WA, the following SLAs experienced declines in their Indigenous population of at least 100 people and representing at least 5% of their population between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses. It is believed that these lower than expected counts of Indigenous persons may be the result of possible collection issues (including high dwelling non-response):

- Broome (S) - Indigenous population declined by 622 people. INGP was not stated for 14.2% of people usually resident in this SLA and 12.6% of people were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.
- Halls Creek (S) - Indigenous population declined by 426 people. INGP was not stated for 6.3% of people usually resident in this SLA and 5.6% of people were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.
- Port Hedland (T) - Indigenous population declined by 203 people. INGP was not stated for 25.9% of people usually resident in this SLA and 24.8% of people were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.
- Ngaanyatjarraku (S) - Indigenous population declined by 133 people. INGP was not stated for 1.0% of people usually resident in this SLA and 0.5% of people were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

South Australia

2006 Census counts for the SLA of Coober Pedy were lower than expected for both the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations. The Indigenous population declined by 22.3% (78 people) between 2001 and 2006. A higher than expected number of unoccupied dwellings may partly explain the lower than expected count, as it suggests that the usual residents were absent during Census enumeration. INGP was not stated for 16.0% of people usually resident in this SLA, and 13.3% of people were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Individual Income (weekly) (INCP) - Characteristics 2006

Individual Income (weekly)

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records the income level of people aged 15 years and over. Individual incomes are collected as ranges in the Census. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>33 What is the <i>total</i> of all wages/salaries, government benefits, pensions, allowances and other income the person <i>usually</i> receives?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MARK ONE BOX ONLY.• Do <i>not deduct</i>: tax, superannuation contributions, health insurance, amounts salary sacrificed, or any other automatic deductions.• Include the following: <table><tr><td>Pensions/Allowances</td><td>Other income</td></tr><tr><td>family tax benefit</td><td>interest</td></tr><tr><td>parenting payment</td><td>dividends</td></tr><tr><td>unemployment benefits</td><td>rents (exclude expenses of operation)</td></tr><tr><td>Newstart allowance</td><td>business/farm income (exclude expenses of operation)</td></tr><tr><td>rent assistance</td><td>income from superannuation</td></tr><tr><td>pensions</td><td>any other income</td></tr><tr><td>student allowances</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>maintenance (child support)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>workers' compensation</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>any other pensions/allowances</td><td></td></tr></table> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information from this question provides an indication of living standards in different areas.	Pensions/Allowances	Other income	family tax benefit	interest	parenting payment	dividends	unemployment benefits	rents (exclude expenses of operation)	Newstart allowance	business/farm income (exclude expenses of operation)	rent assistance	income from superannuation	pensions	any other income	student allowances		maintenance (child support)		workers' compensation		any other pensions/allowances		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> \$2,000 or more per week (\$104,000 or more per year)<input type="radio"/> \$1,600 - \$1,999 per week (\$83,200 - \$103,999 per year)<input type="radio"/> \$1,300 - \$1,599 per week (\$67,600 - \$83,199 per year)<input type="radio"/> \$1,000 - \$1,299 per week (\$52,000 - \$67,599 per year)<input type="radio"/> \$800 - \$999 per week (\$41,600 - \$51,999 per year)<input type="radio"/> \$600 - \$799 per week (\$31,200 - \$41,599 per year)<input type="radio"/> \$400 - \$599 per week (\$20,800 - \$31,199 per year)<input type="radio"/> \$250 - \$399 per week (\$13,000 - \$20,799 per year)<input type="radio"/> \$150 - \$249 per week (\$7,800 - \$12,999 per year)<input type="radio"/> \$1 - \$149 per week (\$1 - \$7,799 per year)<input type="radio"/> Nil income<input type="radio"/> Negative income
Pensions/Allowances	Other income																						
family tax benefit	interest																						
parenting payment	dividends																						
unemployment benefits	rents (exclude expenses of operation)																						
Newstart allowance	business/farm income (exclude expenses of operation)																						
rent assistance	income from superannuation																						
pensions	any other income																						
student allowances																							
maintenance (child support)																							
workers' compensation																							
any other pensions/allowances																							

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over

- 01. Negative income
 - 02. Nil income
 - 03. \$1-\$149 (\$1-\$7,799)
 - 04. \$150-\$249 (\$7,800-\$12,999)
 - 05. \$250-\$399 (\$13,000-\$20,799)
 - 06. \$400-\$599 (\$20,800-\$31,199)
 - 07. \$600-\$799 (\$31,200-\$41,599)
 - 08. \$800-\$999 (\$41,600-\$51,999)
 - 09. \$1,000-\$1,299 (\$52,000-\$67,599)
 - 10. \$1,300-\$1,599 (\$67,600-\$83,199)
 - 11. \$1,600-\$1,999 (\$83,200-\$103,999)
 - 12. \$2,000 or more (\$104,000 or more)
- && Not stated
@@ Not applicable
VV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 15

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Individual Income (weekly) (INCP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Individual Income (weekly) (INCP).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 8.9% compared with 7.6% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of persons (aged 15 years and over) in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. In these cases persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for Individual Income (weekly) (INCP) remain not stated. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is under 4%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for INCP, respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

For an analysis of the issues associated with collecting income data via a Census, including comparisons with other data sources, refer to Census Paper 03/04 - Income (cat. no. 2936.0) which was conducted on the 2001 Census data. A similar study may be conducted for 2006.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Industry of Employment (IND06P) - Characteristics 2006

Industry of Employment

On this page:

Description

Image of Question

Classification

Quality Statement

Description

This variable describes the industries in which employed people aged 15 years and over work.

More Detailed Description

Image of Question

<p>42 Which best describes the <i>Industry or business</i> of the employer at the location where the person works?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box only. • Examples of 'Other – please specify' are: REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE, EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE, FINANCE, TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE. • Remember to mark box like this:  	<input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesaling <input type="checkbox"/> Retailing (incl. Take-aways) <input type="checkbox"/> Accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Pubs, cafes and restaurants <input type="checkbox"/> Road freight transport <input type="checkbox"/> House construction <input type="checkbox"/> Health service <input type="checkbox"/> Community care service Other – please specify <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
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[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Employed persons

- A. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
 - B. Mining
 - C. Manufacturing
 - D. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services
 - E. Construction

- F. Wholesale Trade
- G. Retail Trade
- H. Accommodation and Food Services
- I. Transport, Postal and Warehousing
- J. Information Media and Telecommunications
- K. Financial and Insurance Services
- L. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services
- M. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services
- N. Administrative and Support Services
- O. Public Administration and Safety
- P. Education and Training
- Q. Health Care and Social Assistance
- R. Arts and Recreation Services
- S. Other Services
- T. Inadequately Described

Supplementary codes

&&& Not stated

@@@ Not applicable

VVVV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories:

one digit level 20

two digit level 106

three digit level 293

four digit level 721

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Industry of Employment (IND06P)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Industry of Employment (IND06P).

Industry of Employment (IND06P) is mainly coded using written responses on the business name and address of a person's employer (Questions 40 and 41 on the household form) and on the type of industry and main goods or services produced by the business of their employer (Questions 42 and 43). In the first instance, industry of employment was obtained by matching business name and address responses to ABS lists of business names for which main industry activity was already known. This occurred for 44.7% of responses. The remaining responses were coded using the responses about type of industry and main goods/services produced. All coding processes were subject to sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality. This method represents a change from 2001 when industry of employment was based primarily on Census responses on type of industry and main goods produced, with limited use of business name information.

Lists of business names were sourced from the ABS Business Register which is also the source for ABS business collection survey samples. Therefore 2006 Census data should be more consistent with other business data collected by the ABS than in 2001.

Where possible standard procedures are used to obtain an industry of employment code, however the level of detail provided in response to Census questions, and therefore the ease with which they can be coded, varies. Standard automated processes were used to obtain codes

for 68.2% of all responses about industry of employment and 31.8% of the more difficult to code responses were obtained using standard clerical coding procedures.

Note that there has been an increase between 2001 and 2006 in the number of persons whose industry of employment was coded to inadequately described or unclassifiable (to 1.2% of persons). This is due mainly to a change in processing procedures for 2006, when some of the less detailed responses were coded to this category rather than attempting to find the nearest possible appropriate code.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 1.4% compared with 1.7% for 2001. Unlike some other census variables the non-response rate is not affected by persons who were imputed into dwellings that did not return a Census form, as IND06P is only applicable for persons with a labour force status of employed.

Comparisons with other data sources

The table below compares 2006 Census data at the broader Division level for industry with data from the August 2006 Labour Force Survey (the Labour Force Survey provides Australia's official estimates of employment and unemployment, and includes quarterly information on industry of employment). There are a range of differences in the scope, coverage, timing, measurement of underlying labour force concepts and collection methodologies of the two collections, and these are the major contributors to the differences in the counts of persons employed in different industries for these collections. Labour Force figures on industry of employment are generally higher as Census data is unadjusted for underenumeration and only includes those usual residents present in Australia on Census Night. Note that Census estimates are also affected by non-response (persons imputed into dwellings that do not return a Census form, as well as persons who were included on a completed form but did not respond to relevant labour force questions). Labour Force Survey estimates only include fully responding questionnaires and are adjusted to account for any non-response. (In the table below, persons for whom IND06P was not stated have been removed to facilitate comparison). In comparing the two data sources below, the proportions of persons in each industry division are similar at this broad level.

**Comparison of 2006 Census and Labour Force Survey, August 2006,
Industry Divisions, ('000s)**

Industry	2006 Census		Labour Force, August 2006	
	Number	%	Number	%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	280,921	3.2	352.6	3.5
Mining	106,895	1.2	133.2	1.3
Manufacturing	952,014	10.7	1011.3	9.9
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	89,449	1.0	105.8	1.0
Construction	709,843	8.0	903.8	8.9
Wholesale Trade	396,362	4.5	409.4	4.0
Retail Trade	1,033,194	11.7	1161.2	11.4
Accommodation and Food Services	575,113	6.5	672.4	6.6
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	427,793	4.8	505.3	5.0
Information Media and Telecommunications	176,820	2.0	244.8	2.4
Financial and Insurance Services	348,589	3.9	378.7	3.7
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	153,906	1.7	198.4	2.0
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	602,016	6.8	748.5	7.4

Administrative and Support Services	286,621	3.2	355.7	3.5
Public Administration and Safety	608,601	6.9	625.2	6.1
Education and Training	697,808	7.9	731.2	7.2
Health Care and Social Assistance	956,147	10.8	1050	10.3
Arts and Recreation Services	127,392	1.4	170.1	1.7
Other Services	338,211	3.8	410.3	4.0
Total	8,867,695	100	10167.9	100.0

The Census can provide industry data for small geographic areas or population groups, together with a range of other demographic and social characteristics. It also produces data at the 4 digit level while the LFS only produces estimates at the 3 digit level and estimates below the national level can be subject to high sample errors. However be mindful that Census data at lower levels of the classification may be subject to response error. The LFS conducts personal interviews (either in person, or via telephone) which allows interviewers to clarify concepts and questions for respondents. This is not possible in the census where a self-enumeration (paper or on-line) response method is used and responses are sometimes not provided in sufficient detail to obtain an appropriate code.

Correspondence with 2001 data

For the 2001 Census the ANZSIC 1993 classification was used. The latest edition of ANZSIC (ANZSIC 2006) was released in February 2006 and so IND06P in the 2006 Census is based on this newer edition of the classification.

However, to facilitate comparison with previous Censuses, industry of employment data is also available from the 2006 Census classified to ANZSIC 1993 (IND93P), that is for each employed person record in the 2006 Census there is a 2006 and a corresponding 1993 ANZSIC code available. These, codes while sourced from the ABS Business Register, were extracted at different points in time. For this reason, Census data may report ANZSIC93/ANZSIC06 correspondences that fall outside the official correspondence published in Australia New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification Cat No 1292.0. This affects less than 1% of data at the division level.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

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When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

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[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Labour Force Status (LFS06P) - Characteristics 2006

Labour Force Status

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This is a derived variable applicable to all people aged 15 years and over. It classifies people as employed working full-time, part-time or away from work, unemployed looking for full-time work, looking for part-time work, or not in the labour force. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over

1. Employed, worked full-time
 2. Employed, worked part-time
 3. Employed, away from work
 4. Unemployed, looking for full-time work
 5. Unemployed, looking for part-time work
 6. Not in the labour force
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable
V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 9

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Labour Force Status (LFS06P)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Labour Force Status (IFS06P).

For the 2006 Census, Labour Force Status (LFS06P) provides data on whether a person was employed (full or part-time), unemployed (looking for full or part-time work) or not in the labour force in the week prior to Census Night. Information on status in employment (i.e. whether a

person is an employee, employer, own account worker or contributing family worker), which was included in LFSP for 2001 is now available as a separate variable (EMTP) for 2006. These changes in the collection of labour force status data since 2001, were designed to produce data which is more closely aligned with standard labour force concepts collected in the ABS's Labour Force Survey (LFS).

In the 2006 Census, LFS06P data was derived from responses to a number of questions on the form. Data is captured automatically from four check box responses (Questions 34, 35, 46, and 47 on the household form) and from the written numeric response from Question 44 (hours worked), and the risk of processing error is low. Occupation information from Questions 38 and 39 may sometimes be used. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 6.5%. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a Census form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for LFSP remain not stated.

Comparisons with the Labour Force Survey

While the Census variable LFS06P attempts to measure the same concept as 'labour force status' measured in the Labour Force Survey or LFS (which provides Australia's official estimates of employment and unemployment), there are a number of differences to consider when comparing data from these two sources.

The Census only includes persons present in Australia on Census Night and counts are not adjusted for underenumeration. The Census will then produce labour force estimates which are lower than for the LFS where they are weighted to independent population benchmarks based on the estimated resident population. Note that Census estimates are also affected by non-response (persons imputed into dwellings that do not return a Census form, as well as persons who are included on a completed form but do not respond to relevant labour force questions). LFS estimates only include fully responding questionnaires which are adjusted to account for any non-response. (In the table below, persons for whom LFS06P was not stated have been removed from the table to facilitate comparison.

Differences in employment counts from the two data sources in part reflect the differences in their collection methods, i.e. collecting the information via a self-completed paper or e-form Census questionnaire versus a more detailed personal or telephone interview. In addition, the Census determines LFS06P on the basis of four questions, while the LFS uses up to 30 questions to determine labour force status. Many of the additional LFS questions concern the circumstances where people are defined as 'employed' even though they were not at work in the reference week.

The table below provides a comparison of both the counts and the proportion in each labour force status category for the two data sources. While the differences discussed above need to be considered, in terms of proportions the data is quite similar. Note that while the total proportion of persons who were employed was very similar for the census and the LFS, within this category of persons the Labour Force Survey does not have a category of "employed , away from work". Persons away from work are categorised as either employed full time or part time based on usual hours worked. The Census only uses actual hours worked (Q44) to determine whether someone is employed full-time or part-time and a response to Q34 to determine whether they were employed, but away from work.

	Census 2006		LFS Aug 2006	
Labour force status	No.	%	No.	%
Employed full-time	5,827.4	39.2	7,235.4	43.6
Employed part-time	2,685.2	18.0	2,932.5	17.7
Employed away	591.6	4.0	..(a)	..(a)
Employed total	9,104.2	61.2	10,168.0	61.3
Unemployed looking for full-time work	310.6	2.1	335.7	2.0
Unemployed looking for part-time work	193.2	1.3	143.9	0.9
Unemployed total	503.8	3.4	479.6	2.9
Labour Force	9,608.0	64.6	10,647.6	64.2
Not in the Labour Force	5,271.1	35.4	5,935.0	35.8
Total(b)	14,879.1	100.0	16,582.6	100.0

(a) In the LFS people employed but away from work are categorised as either employed full-time or part-time based on usual hours worked.

(b) The number of not stated to LFS06P in the Census (1,038,975) have been removed to enable better comparison with the LFS.

The Labour Force Survey provides Australia's official estimates of employment and unemployment. These estimates are subject to sample error which may affect their use for small areas or population groups. Census data can be provided for small areas and population groups along with a range of other demographic and social characteristics. However users need to be mindful of the differences between Census data and the official estimates discussed above.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Landlord Type (LLDD) - Characteristics 2006

Landlord Type

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable provides information on the type of landlord for rented dwellings. It applies to all households who are renting the dwelling (including caravans, etc. in caravan parks) in which they are enumerated on Census Night. Landlord Type allows data to be produced for studies of the socioeconomic characteristics of tenants of public authority housing. It also allows for comparisons with tenants in privately owned accommodation. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

57 If this dwelling is being rented, who is it rented from?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For all state/territory specific Government housing authorities, mark second box. Some examples of Government housing authorities are: NSW Department of Housing, Office of Housing (VIC), Department of Housing (QLD), South Australian Housing Trust, Homeswest (WA), Housing Tasmania, Territory Housing (NT), ACT Housing, Aboriginal Housing Authorities.• Remember to mark box like this: ■	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Real estate agent<input type="radio"/> Government Housing Authority/Housing Department (Public Housing)<input type="radio"/> Parent/Other relative not in this dwelling<input type="radio"/> Other person not in this dwelling<input type="radio"/> Residential park (including caravan parks and marinas)<input type="radio"/> Employer – Government (including Defence Housing Authority)<input type="radio"/> Employer – Private<input type="radio"/> Housing co-operative; Community or Church Group
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[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Occupied private dwellings being rented (including being occupied rent free)

10. Real estate agent
20. State or territory housing authority
31. Person not in the same household-parent/other relative
32. Person not in the same household-other person
40. Residential park (includes caravan parks and marinas)
51. Employer-Government (includes Defence Housing Authority)
52. Employer-other employer

60. Housing co-operative/community/church group

&& Not stated

@@ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 10

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Landlord Type (LLDD)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Landlord Type (LLDD).

This data item is applicable to all occupied private dwellings being rented, and represents 27.2% of all occupied private dwellings.

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 3.0% compared with 2.3% for 2001. Unlike some other variables this rate is not affected by the occurrence of non-responding dwellings, as such dwellings are not applicable for Landlord Type (LLDD).

There have been changes to the order and wording of questions and responses since 2001 which may impact on the data:

- The response "Real estate agent" was moved to the top of the list. This may affect the distribution of responses as a result of a "list effect", whereby people are more likely to mark response categories higher on the list.
- The private landlord response has been split into two responses for 2006 - "Parent/Other relative not in this dwelling" and "Other person not in this dwelling".
- In 2006, the landlord question (Q57) immediately followed the ownership question (Q56) and was before the payments question (Q58), whereas in 2001 the landlord question followed the other two questions.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is around 1%), respondents provide an incorrect number of responses (for LLDD respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

A study was conducted of 2001 census data to investigate the difference between the census count for the LLDD category "State or territory housing authority" and public housing counts from other data sources. The results of the study concluded that counts for "State or territory housing authority" are affected by the incidence of non-responding and unoccupied dwellings (Refer to *Appendix C of Census Paper 03/02 - Housing, 2001* (cat. no. 2934.0)). A similar study is being conducted for 2006 and the findings will become available after the release of Census data.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce

error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Language Spoken at Home (LANP) - Characteristics 2006

Language Spoken at Home (LANP)

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records the main language other than English spoken at home, if any, and is coded using the Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) Second Edition, released in 2005. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>16 Does the person speak a language other than English at home?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark one box only.• If more than one language other than English, write the one that is spoken most often.• Remember to mark box like this: —	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No, English only ► Go to 18</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Italian</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Greek</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Cantonese</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Arabic</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Vietnamese</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Mandarin</p> <p>Yes, other – please specify</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100px; height: 40px;"></table>
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[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: All persons

1. Northern European Languages
2. Southern European Languages
3. Eastern European Languages
4. Southwest and Central Asian Languages
5. Southern Asian Languages
6. Southeast Asian Languages
7. Eastern Asian Languages

8. Australian Indigenous Languages

9. Other Languages

Total number of categories:

one digit level 9

two digit level 60

three digit level 10

four digit level 430

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Language Spoken at Home (LANP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Language Spoken at Home (LANP).

The primary purpose of this question is to obtain data on languages spoken at home, other than English. Therefore the category "English" should not be used as a measure of spoken English, but rather where English only is spoken at home.

Most of the data (91.8%) is captured automatically from check box responses, so the risk of processing error is minimal. The remainder, consisting mainly of written responses, was coded by an automatic reading and coding process (7.3%), and clerically (0.9%). A very small number were difficult to clerically code (0.2%) and more relaxed rules were used by coders. All coding is subject to sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 5.7% compared with 4.8% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.1% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics, however the values for Language Spoken at Home (LANP) remain not stated. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

Inadequately described responses (written responses unable to be coded) comprised 0.05% of the data, down from 0.13% in 2001.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has shown that this is around 1%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for LANP respondents are asked to only mark one response only). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

In 2006, there were 1,755 persons who were recorded as speaking an Indigenous language at home but whose birthplace (BPLP) was recorded as being a country other than Australia. A small number of these were genuinely reported (that is 18 persons born in Papua New Guinea, 13 persons born in England). However, the majority of these instances are the result of errors introduced during the automated coding of languages during data processing which were subsequently not identified in quality assurance procedures. Occurrences of these errors, in cases of 50 or more persons, include:

- 199 persons who reported that they spoke 'Creol' or 'Kriol' at home were miscoded to Aboriginal Creol which is included in the language group Kriol (8924)
- 144 persons who reported that they spoke 'Korean' at home were miscoded to Konean which is included in the language group Gooniyandi (8803)
- 84 persons who reported that they spoke 'Dari' or 'Thai' at home were miscoded to Daii

which is included in the language group Dhay'yi, nfd (8220)

- 80 persons who reported that they spoke 'Hindi' at home were miscoded to Idinji which is included in the language group Yidiny (8313)
- 62 persons who reported that they spoke 'Hindi' at home were miscoded to Pindini which is included in the language group Wangkatha (8716)
- 61 persons who reported that they spoke 'Malay or 'Malay language' at home were miscoded to Myra which is included in the language group Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd (8000)
- 60 persons who reported that they spoke 'Kirundi' at home were miscoded to Kurindi which is included in the language group Gurindji (8505)
- 60 persons who reported that they spoke 'Samoan' at home were miscoded to Saibai which is included in the language group Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya (8401)

It should be noted that, the list above is not a list of miscodes attributable to a specific country of birth but rather a count of the number of times a text entry was miscoded to a specific Indigenous language. For example 'Creol' was reported as a language spoken at home by persons born in a number of African & Indian Ocean countries.

In the 2001 Census, 201 persons were recorded as speaking an Indigenous language at home but whose birthplace (BPLP) was recorded as being a country other than Australia.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Location of Spouse (SPLF) - Characteristic 2006

Location of Spouse

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable is needed when using data on couples or couple families, to identify cases where the spouse is temporarily absent. When a person is temporarily absent only some of their person level characteristics are collected. These are sex, age, student status and the person's relationship to Person 1/Person 2. [More Detailed Description](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Couple families in family households

1 Present

2 Temporarily absent

@ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 3

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Location of Spouse (SPLF)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Location of Spouse (SPLF).

Data used to produce Location of Spouse (SPLF) is primarily captured automatically from check box responses of those reported as being temporarily absent and so the risk of processing error is minimal.

Couple families (with or without children present) made up 82.5% of all families and the proportion of couple families where a spouse was reported as being temporarily absent was 4.9%.

The ABS has undertaken some preliminary evaluation of the quality of Census data which suggests that around 35% of family members who are temporarily absent from their usual address on Census Night are not included in the relevant section of the Census form (Q53). This is only partly explained by the reporting limitation of three persons per household.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Method of Travel to Work (MTWP) - Characteristics 2006

Method of Travel to Work

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records up to three methods, or means, of travel to work on the day of the Census, for each person aged 15 years and over who was employed during the week before the Census. The data are used in Place of Work (POWP) analysis, and transport planning. It should be noted that it refers to method on the day of the Census, not usual method used. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>45 How did the person get to work on Tuesday, 8 August 2006?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the person used more than one method of travel to work, mark all methods used.• Remember to mark boxes like this: ■	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Train<input type="checkbox"/> Bus<input type="checkbox"/> Ferry<input type="checkbox"/> Tram (including Light Rail)<input type="checkbox"/> Taxi<input type="checkbox"/> Car – as driver<input type="checkbox"/> Car – as passenger<input type="checkbox"/> Truck<input type="checkbox"/> Motorbike or motor scooter<input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle<input type="checkbox"/> Walked only<input type="checkbox"/> Worked at home<input type="checkbox"/> Other<input type="checkbox"/> Did not go to work
--	--

Classification

Applicable to: Employed persons

Total number of categories: 237

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Method of Travel to Work (MTWP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Method of Travel to Work (MTWP).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Respondents were able to provide up to three responses, and a code was derived to reflect a single response or a combination of responses. However 95% of the data is made up of single responses, representing one mode of travel, eg train or bus.

Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 1.8% which is the same rate as that for 2001. Unlike some other census variables the non-response rate is not affected by persons imputed into dwellings that did not return a Census form, as Method of Travel to Work (MTWP) is only applicable for persons with a labour force status of employed.

When using this data it is important to understand that MTWP is based on a different reference period (Census day) to other Census data relating to employment (last week). This may help explain why, for a small proportion of records, method of travel to work may appear inconsistent with place of work information.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 2%), respondents provided more than three responses or an invalid combination of responses. Responses are normally accepted in the order they appear on the form and extra responses are rejected. However, for MTWP, in cases where the combination of responses contained "Did not go to work", "Worked at home" and "Walked only" then these unique responses override any others. If more than one of these unique responses is in the same combination then a single response is selected in the order they appear above.

2001 Method of transport to work data contains a small number of data errors pertaining to travel by tram, and to a lesser extent to travel by truck, which were not discovered until after the release of the census results.

During the 2001 census testing cycle, an electronic lookup table containing valid MTWP response combinations was constructed, as a reference for the main edits program. Unfortunately, a late change to the processing order of the options presented on the forms resulted in some valid response combinations not being added to the lookup table. During processing, where two or more responses were marked, with either *Tram* or *Truck* as the first mode encountered, the results were not processed in that order, and were therefore not recognised as a valid combination on the lookup table. MTWP was set to Not Stated for these records.

An example:

where both Tram (the 4th response option on the form) and Taxi (5th response option) were marked, Taxi was processed as Response 1, and Tram as Response 2. The resultant combination '*Taxi + Tram*' was not a valid entry in the lookup table, so was coded to MTWP Not Stated.

Across Australia, 9,251 people who travelled by Tram plus another mode were affected: 8,748 (94.6%) of these lived in the Melbourne Statistical Division.

There are no similar issues with 2006 Census data, however the issues with the 2001 data may

affect comparisons between 2001 and 2006.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Residential Status in a Non-Private Dwelling (RLNP) - Characteristics 2006

Residential Status in a Non-Private Dwelling

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records whether people enumerated in non-private dwellings (such as motels, hospitals, colleges etc.) are staying there as either: members of staff of the accommodation (e.g. owner, proprietor, porter, cook, teacher, warden, family of owner or family of staff); or residents, guests, patients, inmates, etc. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons in a non-private dwelling on Census Night

1. Owner, proprietor, staff and family
 2. Guest, patient, inmate, other resident
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable
V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 5

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Non-Private Dwelling (RLNP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Non-Private Dwelling (RLNP).

Non-Private Dwelling RLNP is only applicable to the 3.1% of persons who were in a non-private dwelling on Census Night and were enumerated on a personal form. A small proportion of owners, staff, and their families living in the grounds of a non-private dwellings were enumerated on household forms and are not included in this data item.

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form and these responses were then grouped to form the two output categories. The risk of processing error is low and sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 15.4% compared with 8.3% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 8.3% of persons who were at a non-private dwelling on Census night but did not return a completed form. Some demographic characteristics are imputed for these persons. However the values for RLNP remain not stated. In 2001, 4.3% of persons who were at a non-private dwelling did not return a completed form.

Part of the non-response for those who did complete a Census form in 2006 appears to be due to respondents incorrectly marking the previous question. This effectively sequenced them from the subsequent question for RLNP and contributed 3.3% to the non-response rate.

In a proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this may be around 12%) respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for RLNP, respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP) - Characteristics 2006

Non-School Qualification: Field of Study

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable describes the field of study of the highest completed non-school qualification. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>30 What is the main field of study for the person's highest qualification completed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">For example: PLUMBING, HISTORY, PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHING, HAIRDRESSING, GREENKEEPING.	<p>Field of study</p>
---	-----------------------

Classification

[Back to top](#)

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over who stated a completed qualification.

01. Natural and Physical Sciences
02. Information Technology
03. Engineering and Related Technologies
04. Architecture and Building
05. Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies
06. Health
07. Education
08. Management and Commerce
09. Society and Culture
10. Creative Arts
11. Food, Hospitality and Personal Services
12. Mixed Field Programmes

Supplementary codes

000110 Field of study inadequately described

&&&&& Field of study not stated

@@@@@@@ Not applicable

VVVVV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories:

two digit level 12

four digit level 83

six digit level 435

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP).

Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP) is coded from written responses to question 30 on the household form, and is coded in conjunction with Non-School Qualification: Level of Education (QALLP), question 29 on the household form. This process ensures that the level of qualification corresponds to the field of study and for a small proportion of data where this is not the case, the level is amended.

Where possible, standard procedures are used to obtain a level of study code. However, the level of detail provided on the Census form, and therefore the ease with which responses can be coded, varies. Standard automated processes were used to obtain codes for 65.4% of all records presented for automatic coding. A further 12.6% of records presented for automatic coding were able to be coded in bulk at a later stage due to identified similarities in characteristics between groups of these records. More complex responses were coded using clerical procedures and this accounted for 21.9% of all records initially presented for the automatic coding process. All coding processes were subject to sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

Of the records sent for clerical coding, 74.8% were able to be coded in basic coding while the remaining 25.2% went to 'Best Fit'. 'Best Fit' enables the person coding the responses to determine whether it is appropriate for responses to be classified into a category when they are not an 'exact' fit.

Figure 1: Qualification Indicator Question

<p>28 Has the person <i>completed</i> any educational qualification (including a trade certificate)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark one box only.• See page 10 of the Census Guide for more information on the treatment of AQF or vocational certificates.	<p><input type="radio"/> No ► Go to 32</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No, still studying for first qualification ► Go to 32</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, trade certificate/apprenticeship</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, other qualification</p>
---	--

Table 1 provides proportions of responses to Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP) as they relate to the Qualification Indicator Question, which is question 28 on the household form (see Figure 1). While the Qualification Indicator Question is used in the derivation of Non-School Qualification: Level of Education (QALLP), Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP) and Level of Highest Educational Attainment (HEAP), it is not available as a standard data item.

As can be seen by Table 1, response rates for QALFP include a small number of people who did not indicate whether they had a qualification at the Qualification Indicator Question but went on to state the field of their qualification at QALFP. Just under a quarter of these (24%) were coded to the Management and Commerce field. Of those coded to Management and Commerce, the four groups with the largest proportions of responses were Business and Management (31.6%), Office Studies (23.3%), Accounting (16.8%) and Sales and Marketing (12.7%).

As is also shown in Table 1, a large component of non-response for QALFP is due to people answering neither the Qualification Indicator Question nor the QALFP questions, including people who may not have seen the qualifications questions as relevant to themselves and those people who were imputed into occupied dwellings from which no form had been returned. However, as it may not be appropriate to consider these groups of non-respondents when calculating non-response for the directly applicable population, further analysis was undertaken so that non-response could be considered **only** in relation to those people who were applicable, that is those who would be expected to answer the further qualification questions if they had followed the sequencing at the Qualification Indicator Question. For example, respondents who had indicated at the Qualification Indicator Question that they had completed a qualification (see Figure 1 for an image of the Qualification Indicator Question, and Table 2 for further non-response analysis).

Table 1: Response derivation for Qualification Indicator Question^a by QALFP, people aged 15 years or over, 2006 Census

Qualification Indicator Question ^a	QALFP	'000	%
Stated ('Yes' response) ^b	Stated	6,429.8	40.4
	Not stated	178.3	1.1
Stated ('No' response) ^c	Not applicable	7,556.3	47.5
Not stated	Stated	174.8	1.1
	Not stated ^d	914.8	5.7
Non-response due to people (aged 15 or over) being imputed into dwellings:		664.1	4.2
Total population aged 15 years or over:	15,918.1		100

^a Question 28 on the household form, see Figure 1.

^b 'Yes' responses only, indicating that the person had completed an educational qualification.

^c 'No' responses only, indicating that the person had not completed an educational qualification.

^d This figure includes 909,190 people who did not respond to **all** three qualification questions (Qualification Indicator Question, QALLP, QALFP).

As can be seen in Table 2, the non-response rate for QALFP was 2.7% for the 2006 Census. This compares with 3.8% for 2001. However these rates only apply to persons who stated at the Qualification Indicator Question (see Figure 1) that they had completed a qualification.

Table 2: Response derivation for Qualification Indicator Question^a by QALFP, population who indicated that they had completed a qualification, 2006 Census

Qualification Indicator Question ^a	QALFP	'000	%
Stated ('Yes'	Stated	6,429.8	97.3

response) ^b	Not stated	178.3	2.7 (non-response rate)
Total		6,608.2	100

^a Question 28 on the household form, see Figure 1.

^b 'Yes' responses only, indicating that the person had completed an education qualification.

Comparison with other ABS data sources

Field of study data is also collected by the ABS in other household collections. One collection is the Survey of Education and Work (SEW) which was conducted as a supplementary survey to the Labour Force Survey in May 2006. Comparative data is included in the table below. There is a range of differences in the scope, coverage, timing, and collection methodologies of the two collections, and these are the major contributors to the differences in the counts in the table. SEW figures are generally higher as Census data is not adjusted for underenumeration and only includes those usual residents present in Australia on Census Night. SEW data is based on a sample of the population and is weighted to take account of non-response. It should also be noted that the Survey of Education and Work generally do not have non-response in the Field of highest non-school qualification question due to using an interviewer based collection methodology.

To enable better comparison across the collections, non-response in Census data for the question asking about Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP) and/or the question asking about Non-School Qualification: Level of Qualification (QALLP) has been removed from the table below. For further consistency with the SEW, the population of census respondents was restricted to include only people aged between 15 and 64 years.

As Table 3 shows, despite the differences outlined above, the proportions of persons in the broad field of study categories are quite similar.

Table 3: Comparison of 2006 Census and Survey of Education and Work, May 2006 ('000s)

Field of study of persons with a non-school qualification	2006 Census ^a		2006 SEW	
	'000	%	'000	%
Field of study inadequately described	86.1	1.5	92.8	1.3
Natural and Physical Sciences	205.1	3.6	248.4	3.5
Information Technology	214.6	3.7	251.4	3.6
Engineering and Related Technologies	1,118.7	19.4	1,350.3	19.2
Architecture and Building	386.3	6.7	430.5	6.1
Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies	151.8	2.6	194.3	2.8
Health	589.6	10.2	686.4	9.8
Education	533.4	9.3	532.3	7.6
Management and Commerce	1,197.1	20.8	1,625.4	23.2
Society and Culture	679.1	11.8	879.5	12.5
Creative Arts	230.4	4.0	281.0	4.0
Food, Hospitality and Personal Services	358.2	6.2	440.3	6.3
Mixed Field Programmes	5.4	0.1	6.4	0.1
Total of persons with a non-school qualification	5,755.9	100	7,019.5	100

^a For consistency with the SEW, the population of census respondents was restricted to include only people aged between 15 and 64 years.

The Census is not subject to the sampling error which can occur in household surveys for estimates below the national level, and can therefore provide field of study data for small geographic areas or population groups, together with a range of other demographic and social characteristics. However, users of Census data at this more detailed level should be mindful of the limitations of collecting information via a census self-completed paper or e-form questionnaire where the responses provided are sometimes not sufficiently detailed to obtain an appropriate field of study code. In comparison, ABS household surveys conducted as personal interviews (either in person, or via telephone) allow interviewers to clarify concepts and questions for respondents.

Additional sources of information regarding level and field of highest educational qualification can be found in other ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Education and Work, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 6227.0, various years), which presents information from the Survey of Education and Work about the educational experience of people aged 15-64 years, especially in relation to their labour force status
- **Education and Training Experience, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 6278.0, various years), which presents information from the Survey of Education and Training about the education and training experiences of people aged 15-74 years.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- the Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the 2006 Census Dictionary (ABS Cat. No. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Number of Bedrooms in Private Dwelling (BEDD) - Characteristics 2006

Number of Bedrooms in Private Dwelling

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This dwelling variable provides a count of the number of bedrooms in each occupied private dwelling, including caravans in caravan parks.

Housing authorities and other users of ABS information use these data:

- to provide an indication of dwelling size; and
- to provide an indication of overcrowding by calculating occupancy ratios (i.e. the number of people per room/bedroom).

[More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

55 How many bedrooms are there in this dwelling? • If the dwelling is a bedsitter, mark the 'None' box like this: 	 Number of bedrooms  None
---	--

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Occupied Private Dwelling

0. None (includes bedsitters)

1. 1 bedroom

2. 2 bedrooms

3. 3 bedrooms

4. 4 bedrooms

5. 5 bedrooms or more

&& Not stated

@@ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 8

For the 2001 and 2006 Censuses data are also available for individual numbers of bedrooms from 0 to 99.

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Number of Bedrooms in Private Dwelling (BEDD)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Number of Bedrooms in Private Dwelling (BEDD).

This data is automatically captured from written numeric responses (or "None" check box responses for bed-sitters). This process is subject to low levels of recognition error. Any outlying values are checked manually to ensure that they match the actual response on the form as all numeric responses are accepted as reported. The data may then include a small proportion of dwellings with unusually large numbers of bedrooms. The data is also subject to normal sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 6.4% compared with 4.0% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of private dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. In these cases as the question for Number of Bedrooms in Private Dwelling (BEDD) has not been answered then the values remain not stated. In 2001, 2.0% of private dwellings did not return a completed form.

For the 2006 Census the "None" check box was added, whereas in 2001 respondents were requested to write "0" in the written response field.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no.

2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Number of Children Ever Born (TISP) - Characteristics 2006

Number of Children Ever Born

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable counts the number of children ever born to women aged 15 years and over. It counts live births. The question on number of children ever born is asked in alternate Censuses and was previously asked in 1996. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>32 For each female, how many babies has she ever given birth to?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Include live births only.• Exclude adopted, foster and step children.• See page 11 of the Census Guide for more information.	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of babies</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None</p>
--	--

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Females aged 15 years and over

- 0. None
- 1. One
- 2. Two
- 3. Three
- 4. Four
- 5. Five
- 6. Six or more
- & Not stated
- @ Not applicable
- ✓ Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 10

[More Detailed Description](#)

Quality Statement - Number of Children Ever Born (TISP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Number of Children Ever Born (TISP).

This data is automatically captured from written numeric responses (and check box responses for "None"). This process is subject to very low levels of recognition error. Any outlying values manually are checked to ensure that they match the actual response on the form as all numeric responses are accepted as reported. The data may then include a small proportion of persons with unusually large numbers of children. The data is also subject to normal sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 6.9% compared with 6.3% in 1996, which was the last time this data was collected. Part of this non-response is attributable to 3.7% of applicable persons (i.e. females aged 15 years and over) who were in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for Number of Children Ever Born (TISP) remain not stated.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Number of Employees (EMPP) - Characteristics 2006

Number of Employees

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

The number of employees employed in a business is used to help understand the nature of self-employment (whether working on own account, or as an employer), and the characteristics of small business owners. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over, who are owner managers of incorporated or unincorporated enterprises

1. Nil employees
 2. 1-19 employees
 3. 20 or more employees
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable
V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 6

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Number of Employees (EMPP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Number of Employees (EMPP).

This variable is only applicable to owner managers of incorporated or unincorporated enterprises (see Employment Types - EMTP), that is 12.0% of all employed persons.

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of

processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for EMPP is 2.1%. Unlike some other census variables the non-response rate for EMPP is not affected by persons who were imputed into dwellings that did not return a Census form, as only owner managers of incorporated or unincorporated business enterprises are included.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 1%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for EMPP respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

EMPP (Number of Employees) can be used in conjunction with EMTP (Employment Type) to obtain an estimate of "own account workers" (owner managers of unincorporated enterprises that have no employees). This was a category in the 2001 version of LFSP (Labour Force Status).

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Number of Motor Vehicles (VEHD) - Characteristics 2006

Number of Motor Vehicles

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records the number of registered motor vehicles, which are owned or used by members of a household, and which are garaged or parked near the occupied private dwelling on Census Night. It includes vans and company vehicles kept at home, but excludes motorbikes, scooters and tractors.

[More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

54 How many registered motor vehicles owned or used by residents of this dwelling were garaged or parked at or near this dwelling on Census Night (Tuesday, 8 August 2006)?

- Include vans and company vehicles kept at home.
- Exclude motorbikes and motor scooters.

Motor vehicles
 None

Classification

Applicable to: Occupied private dwellings

0. None
 1. 1 motor vehicle
 2. 2 motor vehicles
 3. 3 motor vehicles
 4. 4 or more motor vehicles
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 7

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Number of Motor Vehicles (VEHD)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Number of Motor Vehicles (VEHD).

This data is automatically captured from hand written numeric responses (or "None" check box responses). This process is subject to very low levels of recognition error. After the data is captured, any outlying values are manually checked to ensure that they match the actual response on the form. All numeric responses are accepted as reported; the data may then include a small proportion of dwellings with unusually large number of vehicles. The data is also subject to normal sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 7.8% compared with 6.5% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of private dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. In these cases as the question for Number of Motor Vehicles (VEHD) has not been answered then the values remain not stated. In 2001, 2.0% of private dwellings did not return a completed form.

For the 2006 Census the "None" check box was added, whereas in 2001 respondents were requested to write in "0" in the written response field.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Occupation - Characteristics 2006

Occupation

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

Occupation is collected in the Census for all employed people aged 15 years and over. Two questions are used in the Census:

- 'In the main job held last week, what was the person's occupation - Give full title', and
- 'What are the main tasks that the person usually performs in the occupation...'

Collecting both occupation title and task information ensures more accurate coding of occupations. Occupation data are essential for labour market analysis and policy formation. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>38 In the main job held <i>last week</i>, what was the person's occupation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give full title.• For example: CHILDCARE AIDE, MATHS TEACHER, PASTRY COOK, TANNING MACHINE OPERATOR, APPRENTICE TOOLMAKER, SHEEP AND WHEAT FARMER.• For public servants, provide official designation and occupation.• For armed services personnel, provide rank and occupation.	<p>Occupation</p>
--	-------------------

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Employed persons

1. Managers
2. Professionals
3. Technicians and Trades Workers
4. Community and Personal Service Workers
5. Clerical and Administrative Workers
6. Sales Workers

7. Machinery Operators and Drivers
8. Labourers

Supplementary codes:
0998 Inadequately described
&&& Not stated
@@@ Not applicable
VVVV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories:

one digit level 8
two digit level 51
three digit level 134
four digit level 478

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Occupation (OCC06P)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Occupation (OCC06P).

Occupation (OCC06P) is based on the **Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) 2006** (cat. no. 1220.0), and was coded using written responses on occupation (Question 38 on the household form) and on tasks performed (Question 39). Where possible standard procedures are used to obtain an occupation code, however the level of detail provided in response to these questions, and therefore the ease with which they can be coded, varies.

The non-response rate for this variable in 2006 was 0.8% compared with 1.2% in 2001. Unlike some other census variables the non-response rate is not affected by persons who were imputed into dwellings that did not return a Census form, as the occupation variables are only applicable for persons with a labour force status of employed.

A principle of coding occupation data is to allocate responses to the most descriptive and detailed level possible, where justifiable from the information supplied. If a response was not detailed enough to allow coding to the 6-digit occupation level (or 4-, 3-, or even 2- digit levels), a Not Further Defined (nfd) code was allocated. As shown in Table 1, an improvement in detailed coding outcomes has been achieved for 2006 data in total, and across most classification levels. In 2001, 8.4% of applicable occupation records were not able to be coded to 6 digit outcomes. For 2006, 7.7% of occupation records were unable to be coded to the most detailed level.

Table 1: Quality of Occupation response coding, 2001 and 2006 (a)

level of coding	2001	2006
fully coded to ASCO2 (6 digit resolution)	91.6%	92.3%
not fully coded:		
- not stated (@ 1 digit level)	1.2%	0.8%
- inadequately described (@ 1 digit level)	0.8%	1.0%
- nfd (@ 2 digit level)	1.5%	1.4%
- nfd (@ 3 digit level)	0.9%	1.0%

- nfd (@ 4 digit level)	1.5%	1.5%
- nfd (@ 6 digit level)	2.5%	2.0%
total not fully coded	8.4%	7.7%

(a) comparison based on ASCO2

2006 occupation data was coded to both **ANZSCO** and the **Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) 2nd edition** (cat. no. 1220.0) - as used in 2001. Table 2 shows how the two classifications relate, at the Major Group level:

Table 2: Occupation: Major groups, 2006 (ASCO2 and ANZSCO)

ASCO2	ANZSCO	Number of people
1 Managers and Administrators	1 Managers	(97.6%) 798838
	2 Professionals	19150
	3 Technicians and Trades Workers	113
	5 Clerical and Administrative Workers	6
	total	818107
2 Professionals	1 Managers	14346
	2 Professionals	(97.6%) 1705987
	3 Technicians and Trades Workers	2590
	4 Community and Personal Service Workers	22875
	5 Clerical and Administrative Workers	1497
	6 Sales Workers	814
	7 Machinery Operators And Drivers	107
	total	1748216
3 Associate Professionals	1 Managers	(35.5%) 386793
	2 Professionals	80589
	3 Technicians and Trades Workers	222913
	4 Community and Personal Service Workers	139495
	5 Clerical and Administrative Workers	193508
	6 Sales Workers	67417
	8 Labourers	3
	total	1090718
4 Tradespersons and Related Workers	1 Managers	1980
	2 Professionals	89
	3 Technicians and Trades Workers	(96.8%) 1066780
	4 Community and Personal Service Workers	18976
	5 Clerical and Administrative Workers	998
	6 Sales Workers	3
	7 Machinery Operators And Drivers	7143
	8 Labourers	6571
	total	1102540
5 Advanced Clerical and Service Workers	1 Managers	4
	3 Technicians and Trades Workers	1522
	4 Community and Personal Service Workers	7849
	5 Clerical and Administrative Workers	(92.3%) 266651
	6 Sales Workers	12809

	total	288835
6 Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	1 Managers	304
	2 Professionals	198
	3 Technicians and Trades Workers	12642
	4 Community and Personal Service Workers	549422
	5 Clerical and Administrative Workers	(52.7%) 809464
	6 Sales Workers	158958
	7 Machinery Operators And Drivers	49
	8 Labourers	5787
	total	1536824
7 Intermediate Production and Transport Workers	3 Technicians and Trades Workers	1360
	4 Community and Personal Service Workers	145
	5 Clerical and Administrative Workers	22600
	6 Sales Workers	666
	7 Machinery Operators And Drivers	(80.7%) 594289
	8 Labourers	117274
	total	736334
8 Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	3 Technicians and Trades Workers	1341
	4 Community and Personal Service Workers	62905
	5 Clerical and Administrative Workers	71081
	6 Sales Workers	(76.3%) 655540
	7 Machinery Operators And Drivers	2876
	8 Labourers	64929
	total	858672
9 Labourers and Related Workers	1 Managers	3
	4 Community and Personal Service Workers	240
	7 Machinery Operators And Drivers	152
	8 Labourers	(99.9%) 757954
	total	758349

Just under 0.5% of occupation codes were automatically allocated during the Data Load phase, prior to the commencement of the main data coding process. Standard automated coding (AC) processes were then used to determine codes for a further 62.4% of all occupation responses (including where the respondent supplied no information), up from 57% in 2001. (Table 3 shows the proportion of Major Group occupations that were automatically coded in 2001 and 2006.) More complex responses were coded using clerical procedures and this accounted for the remaining 37.1% of the data. All coding processes were subject to sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality. Despite these checks, a clerical transcription error occurred during the early stages of processing - before all vetting systems were fully established. A small number of **Program or Project Managers** (386 in total) had their occupations coded to the correct ANZSCO code but the incorrect ASCO2 code (as **Veterinarians**). The mistake was not identified before processing was completed, and the records remain in error in ASCO2 output.

Table 3: Automated coding (AC) of stated responses for Occupation, 2001 and 2006

Census (ASCO2)

Major Group	2001 % coded by AC process	2006 % coded by AC process	2006 % coded by DataLoad or AC process
Managers and Administrators	48.8	50.7	51.0
Professionals	58.6	67.1	67.4
Associate Professionals	54.7	60.3	60.6
Tradespersons and Related Workers	64.7	71.9	72.2
Advanced Clerical and Service Workers	64.6	78.1	78.2
Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	54.5	58.6	59.0
Intermediate Production and Transport Workers	59.4	68.4	68.8
Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	63.5	66.6	66.9
Labourers and Related Workers	53.0	57.6	59.2
Inadequately Described	6.1	5.5	7.9
Total all stated	57.1	62.9	63.4

In 2006, the ASCO2 Major Groups most frequently coded automatically were 'Advanced Clerical and Service Workers', followed by 'Tradespersons and Related Workers'. Those Major Groups least likely to be coded automatically included 'Managers and Administrators' and 'Labourers and Related Workers'. The Sub-Major Groups recording the greatest improvement in automated coding results were '51: Secretaries and Personal Assistants' (an AC rate of 85%, up 22 percentage points from 2001) and '91: Cleaners' (an AC rate of 65%, up 16 percentage points from 2001).

For those records subject to clerical coding, occupations listed simply as Manager, Supervisor, Coordinator, Technician, Team Leader, Service Person, Customer Service, Installer, Labourer, IT, Analyst, and Clerks were the most difficult to classify at anything other than Major Group level.

Comparisons with other data sources

Census data can be used for the analysis of population characteristics at finer geographic levels and for smaller sub-groups than would be reliably available from household surveys. However, at small area data levels outliers (unusual results) may become more apparent to users. This becomes more probable as other data items are incorporated in the analysis, and users are reminded that almost all census data is as originally reported by the respondents. For some variable combinations, the use of interview-based, correlated survey results at a broader geographic level may therefore be more appropriate.

The table below compares occupation data from the 2006 Census at the broader Major Group with that from the August 2006 Labour Force Survey (LFS). The LFS provides Australia's official estimates of employment and unemployment, and includes quarterly information on occupation. Differences in the scope, coverage, timing, measurement of underlying labour force concepts and collection methodologies of the two collections are the major contributors to the differences in the counts of persons in different types of occupations they produce. Labour Force Survey occupation estimates are generally higher as Census data is unadjusted for underenumeration and only includes those usual residents present in Australia on Census Night. In addition Census counts are also affected by non-response (persons imputed into dwellings that do not return a Census form, as well as persons who are included on a completed form but do not respond to

relevant labour force questions). Labour Force Survey estimates only include fully responding questionnaires and are adjusted to account for any non-response. (In the table below, persons for whom OCC06P was not stated have been removed to facilitate comparison). In comparing the two data sources below, the proportions of persons in each occupation category are similar at this broad level.

Table 4: Comparison of 2006 Census and Labour Force August 2006, Major Groups (a) ('000)

Occupation	2006 Census (b)		Labour Force, August 2006	
	Number	%	Number	%
Managers	1,202.3	13.5	1,285.9	12.6
Professionals	1,806.0	20.2	2,038.7	20.1
Technicians and Trades Workers	1,309.3	14.6	1,551.4	15.3
Community and Personal Service Workers	801.9	9.0	862.2	8.5
Clerical and Administrative Workers	1,365.8	15.3	1,603.4	15.8
Sales Workers	896.2	10.0	1,003.7	9.9
Machinery Operators And Drivers	604.6	6.8	667.5	6.6
Labourers	952.5	10.7	1,155.2	11.4
Total	8,938.6	100.0	10,168.0	100.0

(a) Using ANZSCO classification

(b) excludes inadequately described responses, and records where occupation was not stated.

The Census can provide occupation data for small geographic areas or population groups, together with a range of other characteristics. It also produces data at the 6 digit level while the LFS only produces estimates at the 4 digit level (and LFS estimates below the national level can be subject to high sample errors). However, users of Census data at this more detailed level should be mindful of the limitations of collecting information via a census self-completed paper or e-form questionnaire where the responses provided are sometimes not sufficiently detailed to obtain an appropriate occupation code, for example descriptions such as "consultant", "manager" or "clerk". The LFS is conducted via personal interviews (either face-to-face, or over the telephone) which allows interviewers to clarify concepts and questions for respondents.

Additional sources of information regarding occupation can be found in other ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, 2006** (cat. no. 6306.0) and associated electronic products, which provides information about earnings, working hours, and methods of setting pay for employees by detailed ANZSCO 4-digit occupation;
- **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0) and associated electronic products in 6291.0.55.001;
- **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0);
- **Forms of Employment, Australia** (cat. no. 6359.0), released April 2007, presents information about the nature of employment arrangements in the Australian workforce. It also presents information about different types of employment which can be cross-classified by characteristics such as hours worked, industry and occupation and demographic characteristics;
- **Australian Social Trends** (cat. no. 4102.0, various years) containing a variety of articles

that incorporate occupation information.

Selected Theme Pages on the ABS Website may also contain links to alternative data sources that may be of relevance to users.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the [Census Data Quality Declaration](#) (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- the [Census Characteristics](#) documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the [2006 Census Dictionary](#) (cat. no. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Place of Usual Residence Five Years Ago (PUR5P) - Characteristics 2006

Place of Usual Residence Five Years Ago

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable identifies a person's place of usual residence five years before the Census, and is coded to SLA level. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

10 Where did the person usually live five years ago (at 8 August 2001)? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the person is less than five years old, leave blank.• For persons who had no usual address on 8 August 2001, give the address at which they were then living.• Remember to mark box like this: ■	<p><input type="radio"/> Same as in question 8 <input type="radio"/> Same as in question 9 <input type="radio"/> Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address</p> <p>Street number <input type="text"/></p> <p>Street name <input type="text"/></p> <p>Suburb/Locality <input type="text"/></p> <p>State/Territory Postcode <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Other country</p>
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[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged five years and over

The following categories are also included:

Undefined capital city 0099
Overseas 9299
No usual address 9499
Migratory, off-shore and shipping 9779
Undefined state 9899
Not stated &&&&
Not applicable @@@@
Overseas visitor VVVV

Total number of categories will depend on the geographic level chosen.

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Place of Usual Residence Five Years Ago (PUR5P)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Place of Usual Residence Five Years Ago (PUR5P).

This data was captured as check box responses for most persons (that is those persons whose address was the same as five years ago or one year ago or who were overseas five years ago). Around 31% of persons had their written "elsewhere" address information coded. (In addition a further 7% were same as their usual address or their address one year ago and that address was coded from written "elsewhere" address information). Sample checks of the data are undertaken of both processes to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 7.4% compared with 4.9% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.1% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a Census form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for Place of Usual Residence Five Years Ago (PUR5P) remain not stated. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

In 2006, a change was made to the way SLA codes were obtained from the "elsewhere" address information for both PUR1P (Place of Usual Residence One Year Ago) and PUR5P. In 2001, SLA codes were initially obtained by using locality information and if this was not successful then lower level street information was used. In 2006, SLA codes were obtained in the first instance by using street name rather than the less reliable locality name. This more precise matching process should produce better quality PUR1P and PUR5P codes for 2006.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning,

Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

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[Contents](#) >> [Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006](#) >> [Place of Usual Residence One Year Ago \(PUR1P\) - Characteristics 2006](#)

Place of Usual Residence One Year Ago

On this page:

Description

Image of Question

Classification

Quality Statement

Description

This variable identifies a person's place of usual residence one year before the Census, and is coded to SLA level. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>9 Where did the person usually live one year ago (at 8 August 2005)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the person is less than one year old, leave blank. • For persons who had no usual address on 8 August 2005, give the address at which they were then living. • Remember to mark box like this: — 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Same as in question 8</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address</p> <p>Street number <input style="width: 100%; height: 1.2em; border: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;" type="text"/></p> <p>Street name <input style="width: 100%; height: 1.2em; border: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;" type="text"/></p> <p>Suburb/Locality <input style="width: 100%; height: 1.2em; border: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;" type="text"/></p> <p><input style="width: 50%; height: 1.2em; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 20px;" type="text"/> State/Territory <input style="width: 50%; height: 1.2em; border: 1px solid black;" type="text"/> Postcode</p> <p><input style="width: 50%; height: 1.2em; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 50%; height: 1.2em; border: 1px solid black;" type="text"/> Other country</p>
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[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged one year and over

The following categories are also included:

Undefined capital city 0099
Overseas 9299
No usual address 9499
Migratory, off-shore and shipping 9779
Undefined state 9899
Undefined state 9899
Not applicable @@@@
Overseas visitor VVVV

Total number of categories will depend on the geographic level chosen.

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Place of Usual Residence One Year Ago (PUR1P)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Place of Usual Residence One Year Ago (PUR1P).

This data was captured as check box responses for most persons (that is those persons who had not changed address or were overseas one year ago). Around 14% of persons who had changed address had their written "elsewhere" address information coded. (In addition, another 3% had not changed address but their usual address was coded from written "elsewhere" address information). Sample checks of the data are undertaken of both processes to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 6.1% compared with 4.3% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.1% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a Census form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for Place of Usual Residence One Year Ago (PUR1P) remain not stated. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

In 2006, a change was made to the way SLA codes were obtained from the "elsewhere" address information for both PUR1P and PUR5P (Place of Usual Residence Five Years Ago). In 2001, SLA codes were initially obtained by using locality information and if this was not successful then lower level street information was used. In 2006, SLA codes were obtained in the first instance by using street name rather than the less reliable locality name. This more precise matching process should produce better quality PUR1P and PUR5P codes for 2006.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning,

Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

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Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Place of Usual Residence (PURP) - Characteristics 2006

Place of Usual Residence

On this page:

Description

Image of Question

Image Classification

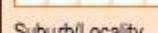
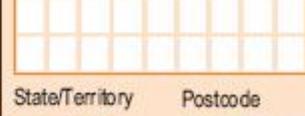
Quality Statement

Description

This is the place where a person usually lives. It may, or may not be the place where the person was counted on Census Night. Each person is required to state his/her address of usual residence in Question 8. The count of persons at their usual residence is known as the **de jure** population count.

Census counts compiled on this basis are less likely to be influenced by seasonal factors such as school holidays and snow seasons, and provide information about the usual residents of an area.

Image of Question

<p>8 Where does the person usually live?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For persons who usually live in another country and who are visiting Australia for less than one year, mark 'Other country'. For other persons, 'usually live' means that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of six months or more in 2006. For persons who now have no usual address, write 'NONE' in the 'Suburb/Locality' box. For boarders at boarding school, write the address of the boarding school or college. Remember to mark box like this: ■ 	<input type="checkbox"/> The address shown on the front of this form <input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Apartment/Flat/Unit number (if any)  Street number  Street name  Suburb/Locality  State/Territory Postcode 
---	--

Classification

For usual residence, CDs can be aggregated to form higher level ASGC and Census Areas.

For 2006 CD codes range from 1010101 to approximately 9030103 with gaps in between.

Applicable to: All persons

VVVVVV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 38,200 (approx.)

More Detailed Description

Quality Statement - Place of Usual Residence (PURP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Place of Usual Residence (PURP).

Every person counted in the 2006 Census has been given a place of usual residence (PURP) down to the Collection District Level (CD). This differs from 2001 when 180,941 persons were unable to be coded to a CD because of insufficient address information. However all persons were given a code at the broader Statistical Local Area level, except for a small number of records (8,888) coded to state or capital city "undefined" because there was insufficient information to code below the state or capital city level.

As most people were home on Census Night, PURP is mainly obtained directly from the Collection District number assigned for that dwelling (and on the front of the census form). In 2006, 94.4% of people were counted at home on Census Night and PURP is automatically captured for 98.3% of these. The remaining 1.7% required further processing due to collection or image recognition issues. There may be a small number of cases where this number may not match the CD code for the actual address on the front of the form - for example if someone took their household form on holidays and filled it out in respect of where they were staying on Census Night. In addition a small number of forms may have an incorrect CD number. However, the risk of processing error is generally minimal.

For the 4.6% of persons who said that they lived somewhere other than the dwelling they were counted in on Census Night, the address details provided in Question 8 of the Census form needed to be coded to a CD. Of these persons, 81.1% were coded using automated processes, with the remainder being coded manually by clerical coders. Sample checks were conducted for all processes to ensure a high standard of quality. An additional 1.0% of persons stated that their usual residence was overseas and were coded as such. Provision is also made for persons who indicate on the form that they have no usual place of residence. In 2006, the number of persons coded to "No usual address" was 41,486, which was 15.2% higher than that for 2001 (36,014).

PURP is a hierarchical classification, ranging from the broadest geographical level (State/Territory) at the top of the hierarchy to the finest level (CD) at the lowest. Where there was insufficient information to address code to any level of the PURP hierarchy then that value was imputed. The imputation rate where all levels of the hierarchy were imputed is 5.4% and for the lowest level, the CD it was 5.8%. This indicates a very small number of people that did provide some higher level address information such as State or Capital City, or information that enabled PURP to be coded to a broader level of the hierarchy.

Most of the imputation is attributable to the 4.1% of persons (including those imputed as overseas visitors) in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics such as PURP. Note that 89.5% of these were imputed as being at home on Census Night.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/11/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Place of Work (POWP) - Characteristics 2006

Place of Work

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

Place of Work data provide information on where a person goes to work. The address of the person's workplace in the week prior to Census Night is coded to a Destination Zone using an index provided by the State Transport Authorities, who also define the Study Area (boundary) that is designated by that code. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Place of Work is a hierarchical field and can be broken into State, Study Area, Statistical Local Area and Destination Zone.

State/Territory

- Study Area - Detailed
 - Statistical Local Area
 - Destination Zone
- Study Area - Extended
 - Statistical Local Area
 - Destination Zone

Place of Work can be cross classified with Place of Usual Residence and/or Method of Travel to Work to provide Journey to Work data.

Applicable to: Employed persons

Total number of categories: Available on request

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Place of Work (POWP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Place of Work (POWP).

The data for Place of Work are derived from written responses to the Business name and Workplace Address questions (Questions 40 and 41 on the household form) which are coded to Destination Zones designed by each of the State/Territory Transport Authorities (STAs). Most of the data (62.1%) was coded by automated reading and coding processes while the remainder (37.9%) was coded clerically. Checks of the data are carried out for all processes to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for POWP in 2006 was 4.9% compared with 4.0% for the equivalent variable, Journey to Work (JTWDZNP) in 2001. Unlike some other census variables the non-response rate is not affected by persons imputed into non-responding dwellings, as POWP is only applicable for persons with a labour force status of employed.

In 2006, in consultation with the STAs, there was a concerted effort to improve the quality of the indexes used for the coding of POWP and in validating subsequent data. This should result in improved POWP data.

When using this data it is important to understand that POWP is based on a different reference period (last week) to other Census data such as MTWP (Method of Travel) which refers to Census day. This may help explain why, for a small proportion of records, method of travel to work may appear inconsistent with place of work information.

At the SLA level, POWP data for 2006 is generally comparable with Journey to Work data for 2001 although there were some SLA boundary changes between 2001 and 2006 to take into account changing LGA boundaries. More information is available in the July 2006 ASGC Volume 1(cat. no. 1216.0). However, Study Areas and Destination Zones are not necessarily comparable across censuses, with 2006 boundaries generally being more detailed than in 2001.

There has been a slight increase in the proportion of records that were unable to be assigned a SLA code (excluding those records where POWP was not stated). Those with "no fixed address" have increased from 3.9% of the applicable population in 2001 to 4.3% in 2006, while records which have been coded more broadly to Capital City and State/Territory "undefined" have increased from 0.9% to 1.1%.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect

answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Proficiency in Spoken English/Language (ENGP01) - Characteristics 2006

Proficiency in Spoken English/Language

On this page:

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Classification

This variable classifies each person's self-assessed proficiency in spoken English.

Applicable to: All persons

Speaks English Only

1 Speaks English Only

Speaks other language and speaks English

2 Very well

3 Well

4 Not well

5 Not at all

Not stated

6 Not stated-language (LANP) stated, proficiency (ENGP) not stated

7 Not stated-both language (LANP) and proficiency (ENGP) not stated

Overseas visitor

8 Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 8

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Proficiency in Spoken English/Language (ENGP01)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Proficiency in Spoken English/Language (ENGP01).

This data is captured automatically from check box responses so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 5.6% compared with 4.7% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.1% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for Proficiency in Spoken English/Language (ENGP01) remain not stated. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is around 1%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for ENGP01, respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

This page last updated 20 May 2011



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/10/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Non-School Qualification: Level of Education (QALP) - Characteristics 2006

Non-School Qualification: Level of Education

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable describes the level of education of the highest completed non-school qualification (e.g. bachelor degree, diploma). [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>29 What is the level of the <i>highest</i> qualification the person has <i>completed</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">For example: TRADE CERTIFICATE, BACHELOR DEGREE, ASSOCIATE DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATE II, ADVANCED DIPLOMA.	<p>Level of qualification</p>
--	-------------------------------

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over who stated a completed qualification.

- Postgraduate Degree Level
- Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level
- Bachelor Degree Level
- Advanced Diploma and Diploma Level
- Certificate Level

Not applicable (@@@) category comprises

Persons who have a qualification that is out of scope of this classification

Persons with no qualifications

Persons still studying for a first qualification

Persons aged under 15 years

Total number of categories:
one digit level 5
two digit level 13
three digit level 11

More Detailed Description

[Back to top](#)

Data Quality Statements - QALLP Non school qualification : Level of Education

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP).

Non-School Qualification: Level of Education (QALLP) is coded from written responses to question 29 on the household form and is coded in conjunction with Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP), question 30 on the household form. This process ensures that the level of qualification corresponds to the field of study and, for a small proportion of data where this is not the case, the level is amended.

Where possible, standard procedures are used to obtain a level of study code. However, the level of detail provided on the Census form, and therefore the ease with which responses can be coded, varies. Standard automated processes were used to obtain codes for 65.4% of all records presented for automatic coding. A further 12.6% of records presented for automatic coding were able to be coded in bulk at a later stage due to identified similarities in characteristics between groups of these records. More complex responses were coded using clerical procedures and this accounted for 21.9% of all records initially presented for the automatic coding process. All coding processes were subject to sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

Of the records sent for clerical coding, 74.8% were able to be coded in basic coding while the remaining 25.2% went to 'Best Fit'. 'Best Fit' enables the person coding the responses to determine whether it is appropriate for responses to be classified into a category when they are not an 'exact' fit.

Figure 1: Qualification Indicator Question

<p>28 Has the person <i>completed</i> any educational qualification (including a trade certificate)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark one box only.• See page 10 of the Census Guide for more information on the treatment of AQF or vocational certificates.	<p><input type="radio"/> No ► Go to 32</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No, still studying for first qualification ► Go to 32</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, trade certificate/apprenticeship</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, other qualification</p>
---	--

Table 1 provides proportions of responses to Non-School Qualification: Level of Education (QALLP) as they relate to the Qualification Indicator Question, which is question 28 on the household form (see Figure 1). While the Qualification Indicator Question is used in the derivation of Non-School Qualification: Level of Education (QALLP), Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP) and Level of Highest Educational Attainment (HEAP), it is not available as a standard data item.

As can be seen by Table 1, response rates for QALLP include a small number of people who did not indicate whether they had a qualification at the Qualification Indicator Question but went on to state their level of qualification at QALLP. Just over a third of these (33.3%) were coded to the

Certificate Level. Of those coded to the Certificate Level, 60% were coded to the Certificate III or IV Level.

A large component of non-response for QALLP is due to people answering neither the Qualification Indicator nor the QALLP questions, including people who may not have seen the qualifications questions as relevant to themselves, and those people who were imputed into occupied dwellings from which no form had been returned. However, as it may not be appropriate to consider these groups of non-respondents when calculating non-response for the directly applicable population, further analysis was undertaken so that non-response could be considered **only** in relation to those people who were applicable, that is those who would be expected to answer the further qualification questions if they had followed the sequencing at the Qualification Indicator Question. For example, respondents who had indicated at the Qualification Indicator Question that they had completed a qualification (see Figure 1 for an image of the Qualification Indicator Question, and Table 2 for further non-response analysis.)

Table 1: Response/Non-Response derivation for Qualification Indicator Question by QALLP, people aged 15 or over, 2006 Census

Qualification Indicator Question ^a	QALLP	'000	%
Stated ('Yes' response) ^b	Stated	6,360.2	40.0
	Not stated	247.9	1.6
Stated ('No' response) ^c	Not applicable	7,556.3	47.5
Not Stated	Stated	150.3	0.9
	Not stated ^d	939.3	5.9
Non-response due to people (aged 15 or over) being imputed into dwellings:		664.1	4.2
Total Population aged 15 years or over:	15,918.1		100

^a Question 28 on the household form, see Figure 1.

^b 'Yes' responses only, indicating that the person had completed an educational qualification.

^c 'No' responses only, indicating that the person had not completed an educational qualification.

^d This figure includes 909,190 people who did not respond to **all** three qualification questions (Qualification Indicator Question, QALLP, QALFP).

As can be seen in Table 2, the non-response rate for QALLP was 3.8% for the 2006 Census. This compares with 5.5% for 2001. However these rates only apply to persons who stated at the Qualification Indicator Question (see Figure 1) that they had completed a qualification.

Table 2: Response/Non-response derivation for Qualification Indicator Question^a by QALLP, population who indicated that they had completed a non-school educational qualification, 2006 Census

Qualification Indicator Question ^a	QALLP	'000	%
Stated ('Yes' response) ^b	Stated	6,360.2	96.2
	Not Stated	247.9	3.8 (non- response rate)
Total	6,608.2		100

^a Question 28 on the household form, see Figure 1.

^b 'Yes' responses only, indicating that the person had completed an educational qualification.

Comparison with other ABS data sources

Level of Education data is also collected by the ABS in other household collections. One collection is the Survey of Education and Work (SEW) which was conducted as a supplementary survey to the Labour Force Survey in May 2006. Comparative data is included in the table below. There are a range of differences in the scope, coverage, timing, and collection methodologies of the two collections, and these are the major contributors to the differences in the counts in the table. SEW figures are generally higher as Census data is unadjusted for underenumeration and only includes those usual residents present in Australia on Census Night. SEW data is based on a sample of the population and is weighted to take account of non-response. It should be noted that the Survey of Education and Work and the Survey of Education and Training generally do not have non-response in the Level of highest non-school qualification question due to using an interviewer based collection methodology.

To enable better comparison across the collections, non-response in Census data for the question asking about Non-School Qualification: Level of Qualification (QALLP) and/or the question asking about Non-School Qualification: Field of Study (QALFP) has been removed from the table below. For further consistency with the SEW, the population of census respondents was restricted to include only people aged between 15 and 64 years.

As Table 3 shows, despite the differences outlined above, the proportions of persons in the broad level of study categories are quite similar, with the exception of the category 'Certificate Level I and II'. The discrepancy of +8.0% between the 2006 Census (2.9%) and the 2006 SEW (10.9%) may be partially due to a differences between the two collections in the coding of a small proportion of qualifications which were not fully defined, and were completed prior to 1998. While these responses were coded to 'Certificate nfd' in the 2006 Census, these same types of responses would have been coded to the more specific categories of 'Certificate 1 & 2 nfd' or 'Certificate 3 & 4 nfd' in the 2006 SEW. An edit to move these qualifications from the 'Certificate nfd' category in the 2006 Census was not applied to maintain comparability for this item with the 2001 Census item.

Table 3: Comparison of 2006 Census and Survey of Education and Work, May 2006 ('000s)

	2006 Census ^a		2006 SEW	
Level of Education of persons with a non-school qualification	'000	%	'000	%
Level of education inadequately described/not determined	191.0	3.3	141.9	2.0
Postgraduate Degree Level	381.6	6.6	428.8	6.1
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level	213.2	3.7	316.0	4.5
Bachelor Degree Level	1,708.4	29.7	2,008.3	28.6
Advanced Diploma and Diploma Level	990.7	17.2	1,075.7	15.3
Certificate Level III & IV ^b	1870.1	32.5	2,056.5	29.3
Certificate Level I & II ^b	168.6	2.9	762.3	10.9
Certificate Level nfd ^b	232.3	4.0	230.0	3.3
Total of Persons with a non-school qualification	5,755.9	100.0	7,019.5	100.0

^a For consistency with the SEW, the population of census respondents was restricted to include only people aged between 15 and 64 years.

^b For information about differences in coding procedures for these categories between the 2006 Census

and the 2006 SEW, see the discussion in preceding paragraph.

The Census is not subject to the sampling error which can occur in household surveys for estimates below the national level, and can therefore provide level of education data for small geographic areas or population groups, together with a range of other demographic and social characteristics. However, users of Census data at this more detailed level should be mindful of the limitations of collecting information via a census self-completed paper or e-form questionnaire where the responses provided are sometimes not sufficiently detailed to obtain an appropriate field of study code. In comparison, ABS household surveys conducted as personal interviews (either in person, or via telephone) allow interviewers to clarify concepts and questions for respondents.

Additional sources of information regarding level and field of highest educational qualification can be found in other ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Education and Work, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 6227.0, various years), which presents information from the Survey of Education and Work about the educational experience of people aged 15-64 years, especially in relation to their labour force status
- **Education and Training Experience, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 6278.0, various years), which presents information from the Survey of Education and Training about the education and training experiences of people aged 15-74 years

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- the Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the 2006 Census Dictionary (ABS Cat. No. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Registered Marital Status (MSTP) - Characteristics 2006

Registered Marital Status

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records an individual's current status in regard to a registered marriage, i.e. whether he/she is widowed, divorced, separated, married or has never married. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

6 What is the person's present marital status?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Married' refers to registered marriages.• Remember to mark box like this: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Never married<input type="radio"/> Widowed<input type="radio"/> Divorced<input type="radio"/> Separated but not divorced<input type="radio"/> Married
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[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over

1. Never married
2. Widowed
3. Divorced
4. Separated
5. Married
- @ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 6

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Registered Marital Status (MSTP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Registered Marital Status (MSTP).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

Where no response was provided then MSTP was imputed (or derived to not applicable when age is less than 15 years). The imputation rate for Registered Marital Status (MSTP) in 2006 was 5.4% compared with 3.4% in 2001. Nearly all of this imputation is attributable to the 4.3% of persons (aged 15 years and over and including overseas visitors), who were in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics such as Registered Marital Status. In 2001, 2.2% of persons aged 15 years and over were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 1%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for MSTP, respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and extra responses are rejected.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/08/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Relationship Between Families (FRLF) - Characteristics 2006

Relationship Between Families

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This family level variable classifies the relationship between the primary family and the second or third family enumerated in the same household. To identify the second and third families, the variable Family Number (FNOF) is required.[More Detailed Description](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Two or three family households

- 1 Mother's/father's family
- 2 Mother's/father's family
- 3 Son's/daughter's family
- 4 Grandchild's family
- 5 Brother's/sister's family
- 6 Other related family
- 7 Unrelated family
- @ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 8

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Relationship Between Families (FRLF)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Relationship Between Families (FRLF).

For more information about quality issues relating to family structures refer to FMCF (Family Composition).

In Census data, a maximum of three families are able to be identified within a single dwelling, in accordance with ABS standards. While this may have only a small effect on total family numbers generally, the impact may be more significant among population groups which are more likely to live in multi-generational households or with large numbers of extended family members.

There has been a significant increase in the proportion of Mother's/father's family (that is, where the second or subsequent family contains the parent of the reference person of the primary family) between 2001 and 2006 (from 39.0% to 53.3%) and a corresponding decrease in that for son's/daughter's (from 41.1% to 27.1%). This is largely due to the greater emphasis placed on identifying families with dependent children as the primary family during the processing of the 2006 Census data.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

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[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Relationship in Household (RLHP) - Characteristics 2006

Relationship in Household

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This is a key variable at the person level. It is used to record the relationship of each person in a family to the family reference person or, where a person is not part of a family, that person's relationship to the household reference person. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>5 What is the person's relationship to Person 1/Person 2?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Examples of other relationships: SON-IN-LAW, GRAND-DAUGHTER, UNCLE, BOARDER.• Remember to mark box like this: ■	<p>No answer required for Person 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Husband or wife of Person 1<input type="radio"/> De facto partner of Person 1<input type="radio"/> Child of Person 1<input type="radio"/> Stepchild of Person 1<input type="radio"/> Brother or sister of Person 1<input type="radio"/> Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1 <p>Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify</p> <input type="text"/>
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[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons present in the household on Census Night

Husband, Wife or Partner

Lone parent

Child under 15

Dependent student

Non-dependent child

Other related individual

Non-family member

Visitor (from within Australia)

@@ Not applicable

VV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 31

More Detailed Description

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Relationship in Household (RLHP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Relationship in Household (RLHP).

In the 2006 Census, data on the relationships people have with others in the same dwelling is mainly derived from Question 5 on the Census household form, which asks for each person's relationship to Person 1 on the form. This data is captured automatically as check box responses in 92% of cases, with the remainder obtained from written responses to the question.

During the processing of Census data, families and households are identified and created based around a 'family reference person', and Relationship in Household (RLHP) is derived for each person in the dwelling. In over 95% of cases Person 1 is the family or household reference person. For the remaining cases, a different person is selected to better allow relationships to be identified or because more than one family was identified as living in the household.

For many households, identifying relationships to assist the coding of family or household structure for that dwelling is quite straightforward. However, across the community, a wide variety of living arrangements exists and family structures can be complex and dynamic in nature, and so the quality of family data in the Census is partly dependent on people's ability to describe these relationships within the constraints of the generalised questionnaire format required by a Census. Reporting relationships in respect of Person 1 only, can make it difficult to establish all the relationships which exist in a household, or to identify whether more than one family is living in the dwelling. In some cases, additional information such as name, usual residence and marital status is also used during data processing to help determine these relationships. Priority is given to identifying those relationships which form a 'family nucleus', i.e. partnerships and parent/child relationships.

In Census data, a maximum of three families are able to be identified within a single dwelling, in accordance with existing ABS standards. While this may generally have only a small effect on the identification of relationships within a dwelling, the impact may be more significant among population groups which are more likely to live in multi-generational households or with larger numbers of extended family members.

In cases where some members of a household are away from home on Census Night, members of the family nucleus (partners, parents and children) and unrelated persons who were temporarily absent on Census Night (and identified as such in Question 53 on the Census Household form) are taken into account when deriving RLHP. This allows for the identification of some families, and also for distinguishing between lone person and group households. However, during processing of 2006 data there were 29,985 dwellings where boarders/lodgers and unrelated household members were listed as temporarily absent on the Census form and were erroneously excluded when RLHP was derived. This resulted in an additional 29,985 persons incorrectly being recorded as lone persons instead of group household members. This error has also affected the dwelling level variables CPAD (Count of persons temporarily absent from household) and HHCD (Household composition). These dwelling level variables have been amended, reducing lone person households and increasing group households by 29,985. However, it is not possible to make a similar amendment to RLHP. This explains the discrepancy in numbers when comparing "Lone persons" in RLHP with "Lone person households" in the

amended HHCD.

In addition the ABS has undertaken some preliminary evaluation of the quality of Census data which suggests that around 35% of family members and over 40% of unrelated people who are temporarily absent from their usual address on Census Night are not included in the relevant section of the Census form (Q53). This is only partly explained by the reporting limitation of three persons per household.

For the 4.1% of persons imputed into dwellings for which no form was received, relationship data is set to not applicable.

The 2006 Census shows a very small proportion (0.01%) of persons aged 80 years and over as living with a parent (that is, as a non-dependent child). The ABS plans to do further analysis for this group to identify any data quality issues which may be affecting this result.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Religious Affiliation (RELP) - Characteristics 2006

Religious Affiliation

On this page:

Description

Image of Question

Classification

Quality Statement

Description

A question on religious denomination has been included in all Australian censuses, but answering this question has always been optional. The option not to answer this question is provided for in legislation. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

19	What is the person's religion?	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Answering this question is OPTIONAL.• Examples of 'Other - please specify' are: SALVATION ARMY, HINDUISM, JUDAISM, HUMANISM.• If no religion, mark the 'No religion' box.• Remember to mark box like this: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Catholic<input type="radio"/> Anglican (Church of England)<input type="radio"/> Uniting Church<input type="radio"/> Presbyterian<input type="radio"/> Greek Orthodox<input type="radio"/> Buddhism<input type="radio"/> Baptist<input type="radio"/> Islam<input type="radio"/> LutheranOther – please specify <input type="text"/><input type="radio"/> No religion

Classification

Applicable to: All persons

1. Buddhism
 2. Christianity
 3. Hinduism

[Back to top](#)

4. Islam
5. Judaism
6. Other Religions
7. No Religion

Supplementary codes
0002 Religious belief, nfd
0003 Not defined
0004 New Age, so described
0005 Theism
&&& Not stated
VVVV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories:

one digit level 7
two digit level 3
three digit level 30
four digit level 137

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Religious Affiliation (RELP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Religious Affiliation (RELP).

Most of the data (89.6%) is captured automatically from check box responses so the risk of processing error is minimal. The remainder, consisting mainly of written responses, were coded by an automatic reading and coding process (9.2%), and clerically (1.2%). A very small number were difficult to clerically code (0.4%) and more relaxed rules were used by coders. All coding is subject to sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 11.2% compared with 9.8% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.1% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics, however the values for Religious Affiliation (RELP) remain not stated. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

Religious Affiliation is an optional question which is likely to have some affect on the non-response rate.

Inadequately described responses (written responses unable to be coded) comprised 0.5% of the data, down from 0.6% in 2001.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is around 1%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for RELP respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce

error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Rent (weekly) (RNTD) - Characteristics 2006

Rent (weekly)

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

The variable Rent (weekly) (RNTD) records the individual dollar amounts of rent paid by households on a weekly basis for the dwelling in which they were enumerated on Census Night. This includes caravans etc. in caravan parks. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Occupied private dwellings being rented (including rent free accommodation)

0000-9999 (\$0 to \$9,999 singly)

&&& Not stated

@@@ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 10,002

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Sex (SEXP) - Characteristics 2006

Sex

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records the sex of each person enumerated in the Census as being either male or female. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>3 Is the person male or female?</p> <p>• Mark one box for each person, like this: ■</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Male</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Female</p>
--	---

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: All persons

1. Male
2. Female

Total number of categories: 2

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Sex (SEXP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Sex (SEXP)

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data were undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

There is no non-response for Sex (SEXP) because missing values for this item are imputed.

If a form was received but Sex was not stated then it was imputed using other information on the form, such as name, relationship or number of children. If this was not successful then sex was allocated randomly. Clerical intervention was also required in cases where both responses were marked. These various types of imputations occurred for 2.4% of persons.

In some cases where a form was not received for an occupied dwelling, the collector still was able to provide the total number of males and females in that dwelling on Census Night. This information was obtained from residents during the Census collection period. Greater emphasis was placed on these procedures in the field in 2006 than in 2001. In cases where no such information existed, the number of males and females (and therefore SEXP) was imputed for that dwelling. In 2006, SEXP was imputed for the 2.5% of persons who were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received and counts of males and females were not obtained from the collector. In 2001, SEXP was imputed similarly for 2.1% of persons.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Social Marital Status (MDCP) - Characteristics 2006

Social Marital Status

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable is a person variable derived from Relationship in Household (RLHP). Social Marital Status (MDCP) is applicable to all persons aged 15 years and over who were usually resident and present in the household on Census Night. It is not applicable to persons in non-private dwellings.

Social marital status is the relationship status of an individual in terms of whether she or he forms a couple relationship with another person living in the same usual residence, and the nature of that relationship. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over usually resident and present in household on Census Night

1. Married in a registered marriage
2. Married in a de facto marriage
3. Not married
4. Not applicable
5. Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 5

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Social Marital Status (MDCP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Social Marital Status (MDCP)

In the Census, data on the relationships people have with others in the same dwelling, including

de facto partnerships or social marriages, is mainly derived from Question 5 on the Census household form, which asks for each person's relationship to Person 1 on the form. This data is captured automatically as check box responses in 92% of cases, with the remainder obtained from written responses to the question.

Reporting relationships in respect of Person 1 only, can make it difficult to establish all the relationships (including partnerships) which exist in a household. In addition, across the community, a wide variety of living arrangements exists and family structures can be complex and dynamic in nature, and so the identification of all de facto partnership in the Census is partly dependent on people's ability to describe these relationships within the constraints of the generalised questionnaire format required by a Census. Where relationships information is insufficient to code Social Marital Status (MDCP) then MSTP (Registered Marital Status) may be used to help establish couple relationships. Additional information such as name and usual residence may also be used during data processing to help determine these relationships. Unless a social marriage is identified for a person, they are regarded as "not married".

During the processing of Census data, families and households are identified and created based around a 'family reference person', and MDCP is derived for each person in the dwelling. In over 95% of cases Person 1 is the family or household reference person. For the remaining cases, a different person is selected to better allow relationships to be identified or because more than one partnership or family was identified in the household.

In cases where some members of a household are away from home on Census Night, members of the family nucleus (partners, parents and children) and unrelated persons who were temporarily absent on Census Night (and identified as such in Question 53 on the Census Household form) are taken into account when deriving MDCP. This allows for the further identification of some partnerships. However, the ABS has undertaken some preliminary evaluation of the quality of Census data which suggests that around 35% of family members and over 40% of unrelated people who are temporarily absent from their usual address on Census Night are not included in the relevant section of the Census form (Q53). This is only partly explained by the reporting limitation of three persons per household.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of

these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Proficiency in Spoken English (ENGP) - Characteristics 2006

Proficiency in Spoken English

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

For each person who speaks a language other than English at home, this variable classifies their self-assessed proficiency in spoken English. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

17 How well does the person speak <i>English</i> ? • Remember to mark box like this:	<input type="radio"/> Very well <input type="radio"/> Well <input type="radio"/> Not well <input type="radio"/> Not at all
--	---

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons who speak a language other than English or did not state a language

1. Very well
2. Well
3. Not well
4. Not at all
5. Not stated-both language (LANP) and proficiency (ENGP) not stated
- & Not stated-language (LANP) stated, proficiency (ENGP) not stated
- @ Not applicable
- V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 8

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Spoken English (ENGP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on proficiency in Spoken English (ENGP).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are also undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 1.8% compared with 2.0% for 2001. Unlike most other variables the rate is not affected by the occurrence of non-responding dwellings as Spoken English (ENGP) is only applicable for those persons who have already provided a language other than English in the question on 'Language Spoken at Home' (LANP) or have answered ENGP.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is around 1%), respondents provided more than the required number of responses (for ENGP, respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Tenure Type (TEND) - Characteristics 2006

Tenure Type

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

Tenure type describes whether a household is purchasing, rents or owns, the dwelling in which it was enumerated on Census Night, or whether the household occupies it under another arrangement. Tenure type is derived from the responses to a series of questions. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

56 Is this dwelling:	<input type="radio"/> Owned outright? ► Go to 59 <input type="radio"/> Owned with a mortgage? ► Go to 58 <input type="radio"/> Being purchased under a rent/buy scheme? <input type="radio"/> Being rented? <input type="radio"/> Being occupied rent free? <input type="radio"/> Being occupied under a life tenure scheme? <input type="radio"/> Other?
-----------------------------	---

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Occupied private dwellings

1. Fully owned
 2. Being purchased
 3. Being purchased under a rent/buy scheme
 4. Rented
 5. Being occupied rent-free
 6. Being occupied under a life tenure scheme
 7. Other tenure type
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 9

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Tenure Type (TEND)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Tenure Type (TEND).

This data item is applicable to occupied private dwellings, which comprise 90.1% of all private dwellings.

Tenure Type (TEND) is derived from answers to two questions on the Census form. Most of the data is captured automatically from Question 56 (which asks if the dwelling is owned, being purchased or being rented). In addition, 3.8% of the rented category also includes dwellings with a response of "other" or "not stated" to that question, but where the following question on landlord type was answered.

The data is captured automatically from check box responses so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 7.1% compared with 4.7% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of private dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. For these dwellings the value for TEND remains not stated. In 2001, 2.0% of private dwellings did not return a completed form.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is under 2%), respondents provided an incorrect combination of responses to the primary question for TEND, (where respondents are asked to provide only one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

A change in the wording of the dwelling ownership responses may have produced a small change in distributions for the "Fully Owned" and "Being Purchased" categories. The response "Owned outright" replaces "Fully owned" and "Owned with a mortgage" replaces "Being purchased".

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Type of Educational Institution Attending (TYPP) - Characteristics 2006

Type of Educational Institution Attending

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records the type of educational institution being attended by people who are full/part-time students. The categories cover pre-school through to tertiary institutions. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>25 What type of educational institution is the person attending?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark one box only.• Include external or correspondence students.• Include secondary colleges and senior high schools under the 'Secondary school' category.• Remember to mark box like this: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-school<input type="checkbox"/> Infants/Primary school<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Government<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic<input type="checkbox"/> Other non-government<input type="checkbox"/> Secondary school<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Government<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic<input type="checkbox"/> Other non-government<input type="checkbox"/> Tertiary institution<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Technical or further educational institution (including TAFE Colleges)<input type="checkbox"/> University or other higher educational institution<input type="checkbox"/> Other educational institution
---	---

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons attending an educational institution

10. Pre-school
21. Infants/Primary-Government
22. Infants/Primary -Catholic
23. Infants/Primary -Other Non Government
31. Secondary-Government
32. Secondary -Catholic
33. Secondary- Other Non Government
40. Technical or Further Educational Institution (including TAFE Colleges)
50. University or other Tertiary Institutions
60. Other

&& Not stated
@@ Not applicable
VV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 13

More Detailed Description

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Type of Educational Institution Attending (TYPP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Type of Educational Institution Attending (TYPP).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

Table 1 provides proportions of responses to TYPP as they relate to the Full-Time/Part-Time Student Status question (STUP), which is question 25 on the household form. STUP is the question which asks 'Is the person attending a school or any other educational institution?' and provides the following response options: 'No', 'Yes, full-time student' and 'Yes, part-time student'. Respondents who mark the 'No' option are sequenced past TYPP.

As can be seen by Table 1, response rates for TYPP include a small proportion of people (0.3% in 2006 and 0.2% in 2001) who did not indicate whether they were students at the Full/Part Time Student Status (STUP) question but went on to state the type of educational institution attended at the next question, TYPP. The majority of these (70.2% in 2006 and 80.1% in 2001) were aged under 20 years of age. Children aged under 15 years comprised 58.3% and 70.9% of the population who did not indicate whether they were students at the Full/Part Time Student Status (STUP) question but went on to state the type of educational institution attended for the 2006 and 2001 Censuses, respectively.

A large component of non-response for TYPP is due to people answering neither the STUP nor the TYPP questions, including people who may not have seen these questions as relevant to themselves and those people who were imputed into occupied dwellings from which no form had been returned. However, as it may not be appropriate to consider these groups of non-respondents when calculating non-response for the directly applicable population, further analysis was undertaken so that non-response could be considered **only** in relation to those people who were applicable, that is those who would be expected to answer the further qualification questions if they had followed the sequencing at STUP. For example, respondents who had indicated at STUP that they were either a full-time or part-time student (see Table 2 for further non-response analysis).

Table 1: Response/Non-Response derivation for STUP by TYPP, 2006 Census

STUP	TYPP	'000	%
Stated ('Yes' response) ^a	Stated	4,522.2	22.8
	Not stated	212.5	1.6
Stated ('No' response) ^b	Not applicable ^c	13,633.8	68.7
Not Stated	Stated	59.0	0.3
	Not stated	650.5	3.3
Non-response due to people being imputed into dwellings ^d		777.3	3.9
Total Population:		19,855.3	100%

^a 'Yes' responses only, indicating that the person was either a full-time or part-time student.

^b 'No' responses only, indicating that the person was not a student.

^c This figure includes 29,812 children aged 2 years or under who imputed into dwellings and had their response for STUP set to 'No' due to general edits for this age group.

^d Does not include imputed persons aged 2 years or under, see footnote 'c'.

As can be seen in Table 2, the non-response rate for TYPP was 4.5% for the 2006 Census. This compares with 3.1% for 2001. However these rates only apply to persons who stated at STUP that they were a full-time or part-time student.

Table 2: Response/Non-Response derivation for STUP by TYPP, 2006 Census, population who indicated that they were a full-time or part-time student at STUP

STUP	TYPP	No.	%
Stated ('Yes' response) ^a	Stated	4,522.2	95.5
	Not stated	212.5	4.5 (non response rate)
Total		4,734.8	100

^a 'Yes' responses only, indicating that the person had completed an educational qualification.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 4%), respondents provide an incorrect number of responses (for TYPP, respondents are asked to only mark one response). In these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and the extra responses are rejected.

One area where there may be variations between State/Territories is proportions of children aged 4 and 5 years between the 'Pre-school' and 'Infants/primary school' categories. This may be due to differences in the meaning of 'Pre-school' between state/territories. While the Census question is based on the assumption that 'Pre-school' is a type of educational institution which precedes 'Infants / primary' and is attended two years prior to Year 1, there are some state/territories where this early educational institution is referred to as 'Kindergarten' (or another name) rather than 'Pre-school'. Please note that the analyses do not include 3 or 6 year olds, as both of these ages have edits performed during processing which set any responses of 'Infants/primary' (for 3 year olds) and 'Pre-school' (for 6 year olds) to 'Not stated'.

Figure 1: Proportions of 4 year olds attending Pre-school and Infants/Primary by State/Territory

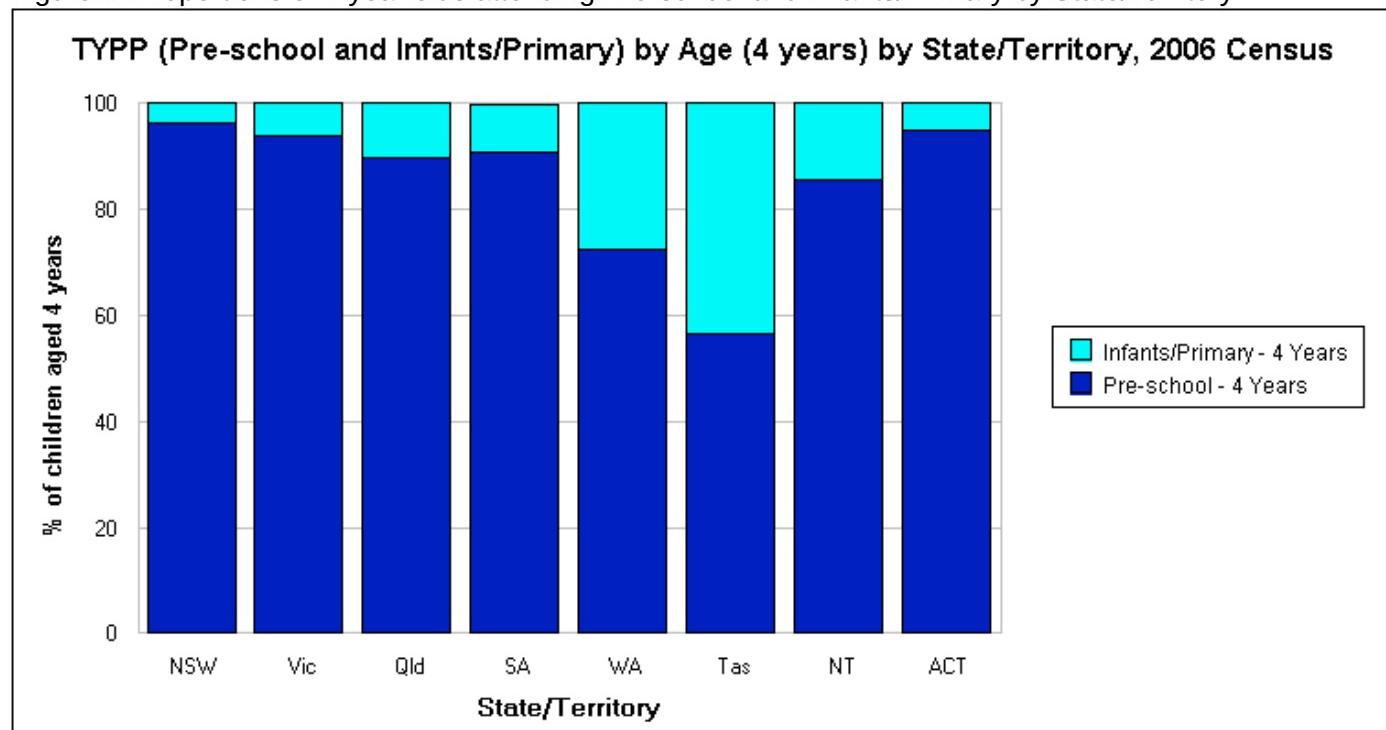
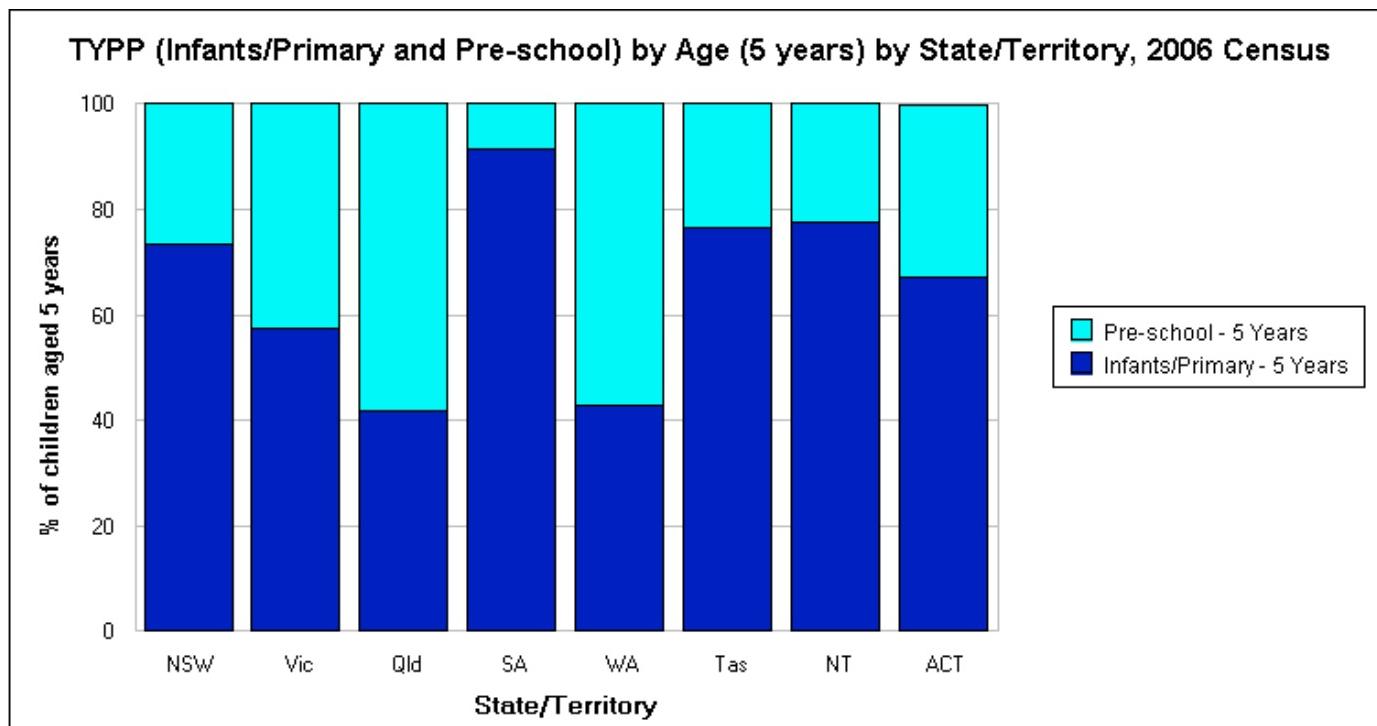


Figure 2: Proportions of 5 year olds attending Pre-school and Infants/Primary by State/Territory



As is seen by Figure 1 and Figure 2, there are variations between State/Territories regarding the type of educational institutions attended by 4 and 5 year olds. The widest variations for 4 year olds occurred in Western Australia and Tasmania, both of which use the term 'Kindergarten' rather than 'Pre-school' to refer to the type of educational institution attended two years prior to Year 1.

The largest variations for 5 year olds occurred in Queensland, Western Australia and Victoria. Each of these States use terms similar to 'Pre-school' to refer to the year of schooling attended prior to Year 1 ('Preparatory' for Qld and Victoria, and 'Pre-primary' for WA). While Tasmania also uses the term 'Preparatory', there are some differences in age cut-offs for enrolment (must have turned five by 1 January for Tasmania as opposed to later in the year for other State/Territories). Consequently, a larger proportion of children in Tasmania would be expected to have had their sixth birthday prior to Census Night. As any children who were aged 6 years on Census Night and who marked 'Pre-school' had their response reset as 'Not stated' during edits, further investigation is not possible.

Another area where there may be differences between State/Territories also reflects variations in terminology. An assumption behind the Type of Educational Institution Attended (TYPP) question is that the 'Secondary school' category will encompass secondary students up to Year 12 in all Australia wide. However, some State/Territories differentiate between secondary schools (Years 7/8 through to 10) and senior secondary colleges (Years 11 and 12). The latter are informally known as 'colleges'. For the 2001 Census, an issue with students in Years 11 and 12 within senior secondary 'colleges' being included by respondents within the 'tertiary college' category rather than 'secondary school' category was identified. This particularly affected school attendance data for Tasmania in comparison with data on school attendance data collected through the 2001 National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC).

To address this issue, an instruction was added to the Type of Educational Institution Attended (TYPP) question for the 2006 Census which stated: 'Include secondary colleges and senior high schools in the 'Secondary school' category'. The effectiveness of this instruction can be investigated through comparisons of 2001 and 2006 Census data with data from the 2006 National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC). Comparative data are included in Table 3 for respondents aged 15 -17 years only. It may be expected that, while 15 year olds will generally still be in secondary school Australia-wide, a large proportion of 16 and 17 year olds students may be attending senior secondary 'colleges' if this type of institution is relevant to their State/Territory, such as within Tasmania. There are a range of differences in the scope, coverage, timing, and collection methodologies of the two collections, and these are the major contributors to the differences in the counts in the table. The age reference periods for the two collections are early August (Census) and 1 July (NSSC). It should be noted that NSSC figures are generally higher as Census data is unadjusted for underenumeration and only includes those usual residents present in Australia on Census Night.

Data for people aged between 15 and 17 years from the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, as well as the 2006 NSSC, is presented in Table 3. To enable better comparison across the collections, non-response in Census data for TYPP has been removed from the analysis. For further consistency with the NSSC, the population of Census respondents was restricted to include only people for whom age was stated, rather than imputed.

Table 3: Proportion of Students (Full-Time plus Part-Time) attending Secondary School by Age (15,16 and 17 years) by State/Territory of usual residence, 2001 Census, 2006 Census and 2006 National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC).

	% Attending Secondary School								
	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas ^c	NT	ACT	Australia
15 year olds:									
2001 Census ^a	94.2	95.0	92.4	93.7	91.1	96.5	82.0	97.1	93.7
2006 Census ^a	95.1	95.5	93.0	96.3	92.1	96.5	84.0	97.3	94.5
2006 NSSC	93.6	96.3	92.6	96.4	95.6	98.9	84.6	110.2 ^d	93.9
16 year olds:									
2001 Census ^a	81.5	88.3	82.6	85.2	75.9	59.2	63.4	89.0	83.4
2006 Census ^a	82.7	89.3	82.7	87.7	78.3	75.8	67.2	89.4	84.0
2006 NSSC	80.2	90.2	82.6	88.5	80.3	87.6	72.8	102.7 ^d	80.9
17 year olds:									
2001 Census ^a	69.9	77.6	56.8	67.8	45.4	45.7	46.0	78.7	65.8
2006 Census ^a	71.9	78.4	55.3	71.5	47.0	47.0	47.8	79.4	66.9
2006 NSSC	68.2	78.2	49.3	69.9	41.3 ^b	67.7	51.2	90.6 ^d	60.6

^a Census figures exclude non-response and any person for whom age was imputed.

^b From 2003, the majority of students in a small number of WA colleges were no longer in the scope of the NSSC and were classified as belonging to the vocational education and training sector. The removal of these students has affected a number of series.

^c Changes in the admissions policy for Tasmanian schools in 1993 resulted in an upward change in the profile of students commencing in that year, and in subsequent years, relative to the years prior to 1993. The changed age profile moved progressively through the grades, and will impact on comparisons between the years 2001 and 2006.

^d Some NSSC figures for ACT exceed 100%, largely as a result of NSW residents from surrounding areas enrolling in ACT schools.

As is evident in Table 3, proportions of school attendance for the majority of states and territories are fairly consistent for 15-17 year olds between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses and with 2006 NSSC data. However, there remain discrepancies in the rates of school participation for 16 year olds and 17 year olds in Tasmania. While there has been an increase in school participation for 16 year olds in Tasmania between the 2001 Census (59.2%) and 2006 Census (75.8%), there remains an increase of 11.8% in comparison with the 2006 NSSC (87.6%) for this age year. When looking at comparisons between school participation data between the years 2001 and 2006, it is important to consider changes in the admissions policy for Tasmania which were introduced in 1993. These changes resulted in an upward change in the age profile of students commencing school in Tasmania in that year, and in subsequent years, relative to the years prior to 1993. The changed age profile moved progressively through the grades, and has impacted on comparisons between the years 2001 and 2006. Due to this change, it can be expected that a larger proportion of students aged 16 years would be attending secondary schools in Tasmania in July/August 2006, rather than senior secondary 'colleges', in comparison with July/August 2001. The proportions of 17 year olds in Tasmania attending school in the 2001 Census (45.7%) and 2006 Census (47%) are consistent, and remain over 20% lower than the proportion of this age year reported as attending school in the 2006 NSSC (67.7%).

Other possible minor influences on data quality for Type of Educational Institution Attended (TYPP) include:

- responses by people who attend more than one type of institution (note that the way in which people in this situation respond will depend on their perception of whether the question requires either a response indicating the type of educational institution attended most often or a response indicating the more advanced, or 'higher', type of educational institution). In cases where more than one response is marked, the response higher on the list will be taken. In the case of Type of Educational Institution Attended (TYPP), institutions are ordered from lowest (pre-school) to highest (tertiary), so the lower level institution will have priority for coding.
- partial response (i.e. not responding to the Full-time/Part-time Student Status (STUP) question blank and marking the type of educational institution attended) from people who either did not understand the question (eg. assumed it referred to the type of educational institution previously attended) or who attended educational institutions in a capacity other than as a student. For the 2006 Census, approximately half (48.7%) of people who answered the 'Secondary school' category in the Type of Educational Institution Attended (TYPP) question, and left the Full-time/Part-time Student Status (STUP) question blank, were aged 25 years or over. Of these, 38.2% indicated a language other than English as their main language spoken at home.

Additional sources of information regarding type of educational institution attended can be found in other ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Education and Work, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 6227.0, various years), which presents information from the Survey of Education and Work about the educational experience of people aged 15-64 years, especially in relation to their labour force status
- **Education and Training Experience, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 6278.0, various years), which presents information from the Survey of Education and Training about the education and training experiences of people aged 15-69 years
- **Schools, Australia** (ABS Cat. No. 4221.0, various years), which presents statistics from the National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC), covering students attending government and non-government schools

Note that the Survey of Education and Work and the Survey of Education and Training generally do not have non-response in the Type of Educational Institution Attending question due to using an interviewer based collection methodology.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- the Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the 2006 Census Dictionary (ABS Cat. No. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Type of Internet Connection (NEDD)
- Characteristics 2006

Type of Internet Connection

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records whether a dwelling has an Internet connection, regardless of whether or not it is paid for by the household. Where a dwelling has more than one type of connection only one type is recorded. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

59 Can the Internet be accessed at this dwelling?

- Include any Internet service regardless of whether or not paid for by the household.
- If more than one type of connection in dwelling, mark the higher type.
- Remember to mark box like this:

- No Internet connection
- Yes, broadband connection (including ADSL, Cable, Wireless and Satellite connections)
- Yes, dial-up connection (including analog modem and ISDN connections)
- Other (include Internet access through mobile phones, etc)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Occupied private dwellings

1. No Internet connection
 2. Broadband connection
 3. Dial-up connection
 4. Other connection
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 6

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Type of Internet Connection (NEDD)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Type of Internet Connection (NEDD).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. In addition, sample checks of the data were undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate to this question for 2006 was 7.5%. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. In these cases, as the question for Type of Internet Connection (NEDD) had not been answered, the values remain 'not stated'.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 2%), respondents provided an incorrect number of responses (for NEDD respondents are asked to mark one response). In these cases the first check box marked in the order they appear on the form is accepted and the subsequent responses are rejected.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Type of Non-Private Dwelling (NPDD) - Characteristics 2006

Type of Non-Private Dwelling

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records the type of non-private dwelling in which people were enumerated on Census Night. Non-private dwellings are establishments which provide a communal type of accommodation. Examples of categories are Hotel, motel; Boarding house, private hotel; Public hospital (not psychiatric); and Child care institution. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Non-private dwellings

01. Hotel, motel, bed and breakfast
02. Nurses' quarters
03. Staff quarters
04. Boarding house, private hotel
05. Boarding school
06. Residential college, hall of residence
07. Public hospital (not psychiatric)
08. Private hospital (not psychiatric)
09. Psychiatric hospital or institution
10. Hostel for the disabled
11. Nursing home
12. Accommodation for the retired or aged (not self-contained)
13. Hostel for homeless, night shelter, refuge
14. Childcare institution
15. Corrective institution for children
16. Other welfare institution
17. Prison, corrective institution for adults
18. Immigration detention centre
19. Convent, monastery, etc.
20. Other and not classifiable
- && Not stated
- @@ Not applicable

Total number of categories: 22

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement for Type of Non-Private Dwellings (NPDD)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Type of Non-Private Dwellings (NPDD).

It is becoming increasingly difficult to determine whether some dwellings are private dwellings or non-private dwellings. For example, hotels or resorts can also provide self contained and long term accommodation (features of private dwellings); retirement villages can offer a mix of communal or fully self contained accommodation. Consequently, there will be a number of such dwellings that may have been classified incorrectly as either private or as non-private dwellings.

As well as becoming difficult to determine particular classes of dwellings as either private or non-private, it is also becoming more difficult to determine the Type of Non-Private Dwelling. The numbers of dwellings in the "Other and not classifiable" category had grown significantly between 1996 and 2001 so investigations were conducted of this category during processing of 2006 data. Using other information it was found that a number could be recoded to a more specific category. This exercise helps explain the fall in this category from 13.8% of non-private dwellings in 2001 to 9.0% in 2006. Dwellings most commonly recoded were to "Hotel, motel, bed and breakfast", "Staff quarters", "Other welfare institution" and "Psychiatric hospital or institution".

For 2006, a small number of non-private dwellings were unable to be coded to Type of Non-Private Dwelling (NPDD), resulting in a non-response rate of 1.1%. In 2001 those non-private dwellings that were unable to be coded to a specific category were coded to "Other and not classifiable".

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Unpaid Assistance to a Person with a Disability (UNCAREP) - Characteristics 2006

Unpaid Assistance to a Person with a Disability

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records people who in the two weeks prior to Census Night spent time providing unpaid care, help or assistance to family members or others because of a disability, a long term illness or problems related to old age. This includes people who are in receipt of a Carer Allowance or Carer Payment. It does not include work done through a voluntary organisation or group. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>49 In the <i>last two weeks</i> did the person spend time providing unpaid care, help or assistance to family members or others because of a disability, a long term illness or problems related to old age?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recipients of Carer Allowance or Carer Payment should state that they provided unpaid care.• Ad hoc help or assistance, such as shopping, should only be included if the person needs this sort of assistance because of his/her condition.• Do not include work done through a voluntary organisation or group.	<p><input type="radio"/> No, did not provide unpaid care, help or assistance <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes, provided unpaid care, help or assistance</p>
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[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over

1. No unpaid assistance provided
 2. Provided unpaid assistance
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable
V Overseas visitor

Quality Statement

UNCAREP (Unpaid Assistance to a Person with a Disability)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Unpaid Assistance to a Person with a Disability (UNCAREP).

Processing

This question was new for 2006: the data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

In a very small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 1%), respondents provided an incorrect combination of responses. This occurs when a "No" response is marked together with a "Yes" response. For Unpaid Assistance to a Person with a Disability (and the other unpaid work questions) the "Yes" response is retained and the "No" response is rejected.

Non-response

The non-response rate for this variable was 10.1%. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of persons (aged 15 years and over) in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. In these cases persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics, however the values for Unpaid Assistance to a Person with a Disability (UNCAREP) remain "not stated". The remaining non-response (5.9% or 942,594 people aged 15 years and over) was attributable to people who returned a form, but who did not answer the Unpaid Care question. Some characteristics of these people include:

- 51% were female;
- of those in occupied private dwellings: 33% were husbands or wives in a registered marriage; 18% were living alone; and 9% were natural or adopted dependent students;
- 46% were aged 60 or over;
- 39% did not state their income; a further 42% reported gross incomes of less than \$400 per week;
- 49% were not in the labour force (and a further 31% did not answer the labour force questions);
- 12.6% were full-time students, and 1.6% were part-time students.

There were four new questions regarding unpaid work or care in the 2006 Census, located sequentially near the end of the questionnaire. The unpaid work questions varied in complexity with regard to reference periods, the amount of text to be read, and the number of response categories offered, but a response to each could be recorded by simply marking the relevant box. Results show, however, that the first two unpaid work questions (including *Unpaid assistance to a person with a disability*) recorded higher non-response rates than the two unpaid work questions following. This finding suggests that some respondents had more difficulty with the concepts or question design for UNCarep, or felt that this question was irrelevant to them.

Comparison with other ABS data

Census data can be used for the analysis of population characteristics at finer geographic levels

and for smaller sub-groups than would be reliably available from household surveys. However, at small area data levels, outliers (unusual results) may become more apparent to users. This becomes more probable as other data items are incorporated in the analysis, and users are reminded that almost all census data is as originally reported by the respondents. For some variable combinations, the use of interview-based, correlated survey results at a broader geographic level may therefore be more appropriate for clients' needs.

The ABS considers the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers the best detailed source of ABS data on carers for people with a disability, due to its careful and structured sequence of questions about disability and care.

A comparison of Census data against survey data demonstrates the variability that can arise from different collection vehicles. In addition to the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC), the ABS conducts the General Social Survey (GSS) which includes a short module on unpaid assistance to someone with a disability. The 2006 Census produced lower estimates of the overall number of carers than the 2003 SDAC, while the 2006 GSS produced a higher estimate than either of these collections.

Table 1: Differences between the three collections:

factor:	Census	SDAC	GSS
scope	persons aged 15 years and over	persons of any age	persons aged 18 years and over, who were usual residents in private dwellings.
timing	2006	2003	2006
interpretation of care activities	self-identification as a carer	interviewers asked respondents about their caring role, and could clarify any questions at the time of the survey.	interviewers asked respondents about their caring role, and could clarify any questions at the time of the survey.
the question(s)	census self-enumerated forms included a single, relatively complex question about 'unpaid care ... because of a disability, long-term illness or old age'.	interviewers asked respondents a range of simple, related questions.	GSS interviewers asked about 'unpaid care ... to someone with a disability, long-term illness or problems related to old age'.
reference periods	'in the last two weeks'	caring for a person with conditions or illnesses that were 'ongoing or expected to be ongoing for a period of six months or more'	'the last four weeks'
supporting information	(on the form) three dot points giving direction for: those receiving a Carer's payment; ad hoc assistance; and for work done through a voluntary organisation or group. (in the Census Guide) a more detailed list of caring activities that could be considered by the respondent.	care recipients were asked a long list of individual questions about the tasks they needed assistance or supervision for, whether they needed the assistance or supervision because of their disability, and who provided it.	the carer question is the first in a series of questions about support for others, introduced by a preamble: 'I am now going to ask you about the help you may provide to others. Do not include any help you give through an organisation, or any paid help.'
response level	90% of applicable population	weighted to eliminate any non-response effect	weighted to eliminate any non-response effect

Table 2: Number of Unpaid Carers, and their percentage of the collection population, Australia, by collection source

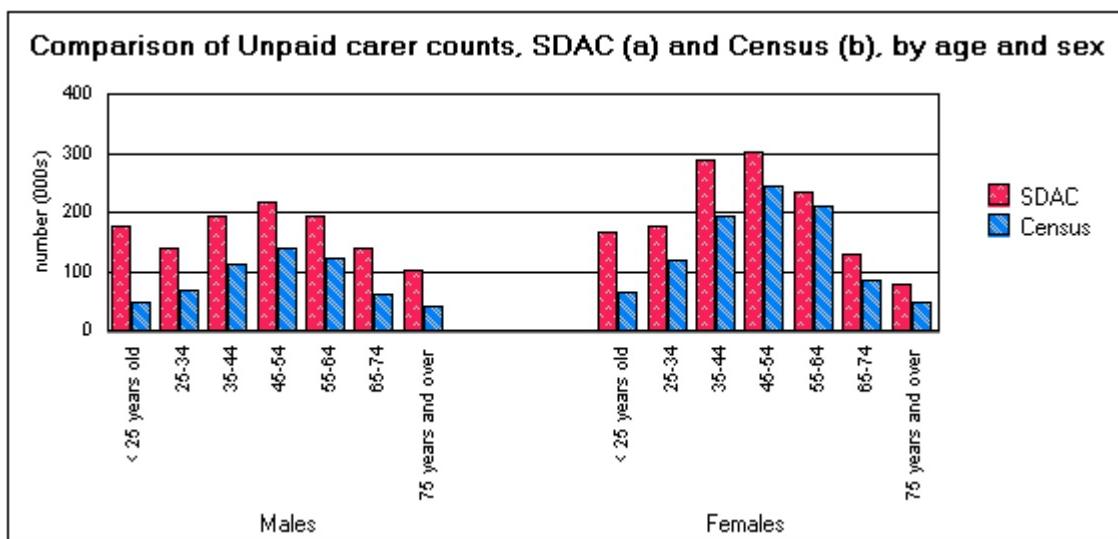
	Census (2006) (a)	SDAC (2003) (b)	GSS (2006) (c)
number of carers	1,606,177	2,455,400	3,105,220
% of applicable population	10.1%	15.6%	20.3%

(a) aged 15 or over. Source 2068.0

(b) aged 15 or over. Source 4430.0 (Table 29)

(c) aged 18 or over. Source 4159.0 (Table 25)

Although at a lower level of absolute numbers, the Census data are broadly consistent with SDAC data in the pattern of caring by age, sex and labour force status.



(a) SDAC data sourced from 4430.0.55.003 (Table 1) which includes unpaid carers living only in households. It also includes unpaid carer data for those aged under 15.

(b) Census data represents unpaid carers enumerated in occupied private dwellings, and does not include data for those aged under 15.

Additional sources of information regarding unpaid assistance to a person with a disability can be found in other ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia, 2003**(cat. no. 4430.0) which provides data about: people with a disability; older people (i.e. those aged 60 years and over); and people who provide assistance to older people and people with disabilities;
- **How Australians Use Their Time, Australia, 2006** (cat. no. 4153.0) which measures unpaid work in the home and the community, including care for people who are frail or who have a disability;
- **General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia, 2006** (cat. no. 4159.0);
- **Aspects of Social Capital, Australia, 2006** (cat. no. 4911.0) page 69 'Voluntary work and caring';
- **Australian Social Trends** (cat. no. 4102.0, various years) containing a variety of articles pertaining to carers for people with disabilities.

Selected ABS Theme Pages on the ABS Website (addressing 'Disability, ageing and carers'; 'Ageing'; 'Health'; and 'Family and Community Statistics') also contain links to alternative data sources that may be of relevance to users.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence,

- interpretability, and accessibility);
- Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
 - the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.

[Back to top](#)

Note: This page was amended on August 8 2008

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

This page last updated 20 May 2011

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Unpaid Child Care (CHCAREP) - Characteristics 2006

Unpaid Child Care

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records people, who in the two weeks prior to Census Night, spent time caring for a child/children (under 15 years) without pay. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>50 In the <i>last two weeks</i> did the person spend time looking after a child, <i>without pay</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only include children who were less than 15 years of age.• Mark all applicable responses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> No<input type="radio"/> Yes, looked after my own child<input type="radio"/> Yes, looked after a child other than my own
--	---

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over

1. Did not provide child care
 2. Cared for own child/children
 3. Cared for other child/children
 4. Cared for own child/children and other child/children
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable
V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 7

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Unpaid Child Care (CHCAREP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Unpaid Child Care (CHCAREP).

This question was new for 2006: the data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate was 9.2%. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of persons (aged 15 years and over) in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. In these cases persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics, however the values for Unpaid Child Care (CHCAREP) remain "not stated". These are some characteristics of the remaining 5.0% (802,833 people aged 15 years and over) who did not answer the Unpaid Childcare question:

- 50.1% were female;
- 36.8% were married; 35.2% were never married; and 16.9% were widowed;
- of those in occupied private dwellings, 35.5% were husbands or wives in a registered marriage; 20.3% were living alone; and 14.1% were dependent students;
- 47.1% were aged 60 or over;
- 43.5% did not state their income; a further 40.2% reported gross incomes of less than \$400 per week;
- 48.4% were not in the labour force (and a further 35.8% did not answer the labour force questions);
- 14.1% were full-time students, and 1.4% were part-time students. A further 35.3% did not answer the student status question.

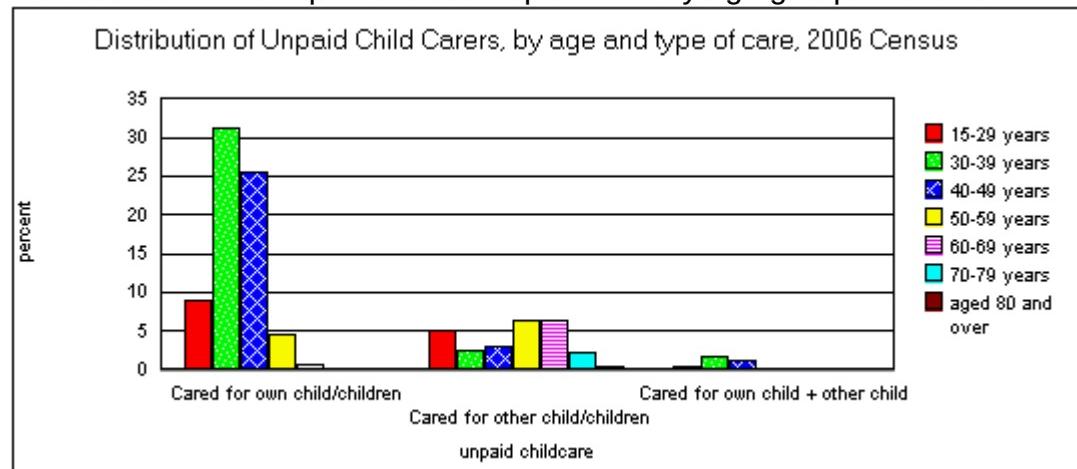
In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 2%), respondents provided an incorrect combination of responses. This occurred when a "No" response was marked together with one or both of the "Yes" responses. In these cases the "Yes" responses are retained and the "No" response is rejected.

The 2006 Census shows a small proportion (0.4%) of persons aged 80 years and over indicating that they were caring for their own child aged under 15 years. Further study has found:

- nearly 6% of this subset had their ages imputed due to the lack of respondent information, or to conform with family processing rules. Imputation rules did not reference CHCAREP as a factor, so there is no statistical correlation between the output field AGEP and CHCAREP for this group.
- The remainder reported their Date of Birth, and/or Age last birthday, and the output (AGEP) remains 'as reported'. The following scenarios are possible for this data:
 - both variables are correct (for example an aged step-parent looking after his/her adopted child); or
 - AGEP is correct and the CHCAREP response is wrong (respondents may have misunderstood the childcare question eg. considered grandchildren or other children in the extended family to be their "own" children or did not realise that the question referred only to children "under 15 years of age"). The likelihood of this is heightened for the 34.1% who were not born in Australia, and particularly for the 64.8% of these who indicated that they spoke a language other than English at home); or
 - AGEP is incorrect and CHCAREP is correct (refer to the Data Quality Statement for AGEP (Age) for further information about the quality of age data). The likelihood of this scenario is increased for the 44.6% who indicated that they were currently in the labour force; or
 - neither variable is correct.

Users are advised to use this subset of information with caution.

The distribution of unpaid child care providers by age group is shown in the following graph:



Census data can be used for the analysis of population characteristics at finer geographic levels and for smaller sub-groups than would be reliably available from household surveys. However, at small area data levels, outliers (unusual results) may become more apparent to users. This becomes more probable as other data items are incorporated in the analysis, and users are reminded that almost all census data is as originally reported by the respondents. For some variable combinations, the use of interview-based, correlated survey results at a broader geographic level may therefore be more appropriate.

Additional sources of information regarding unpaid child care can be found in other ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Child Care, Australia, June 2005** (cat. no. 4402.0), which refers to formal and informal arrangements (other than care by resident parents) made for the care of children aged 0-12 years;
- **How Australians Use Their Time, Australia, 2006** (cat. no. 4153.0) which measures unpaid work in the home and the community, including care for children;
- **Australian Social Trends** (cat. no. 4102.0, various years) containing a variety of articles pertaining to child care.

Selected ABS Theme Pages on the ABS Website (addressing 'Children and Youth Statistics'; 'Family and Community Statistics'; and 'Labour') also contain links to alternative data sources that may be of relevance to users.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- the Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Unpaid Domestic Work: Number of Hours (DOMP) - Characteristics 2006

Unpaid Domestic Work: Number of Hours

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

For each person aged 15 years and over, this variable records the number of hours spent performing unpaid domestic work. It includes work that the person did without pay, in their own home and in other places, for themselves, their family and other people in the household, in the week prior to Census Night. [More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>48 In the <i>last week</i> did the person spend time doing unpaid domestic work for their household?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Include all housework, food/drink preparation and clean up, laundry, gardening, home maintenance and repairs, and household shopping and finance management.• See page 14 of the Census Guide for more information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> No, did not do any unpaid domestic work in the last week<input type="radio"/> Yes, less than 5 hours<input type="radio"/> Yes, 5 to 14 hours<input type="radio"/> Yes, 15 to 29 hours<input type="radio"/> Yes, 30 hours or more
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[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over

1. Nil hours
 2. Less than 5 hours
 3. 5 to 14 hours
 4. 15 to 29 hours
 5. 30 hours or more
- & Not stated
@ Not applicable
V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 8

More Detailed Description

Quality Statement - Unpaid Domestic Work (DOMP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Unpaid Domestic Work (DOMP).

This question was new for 2006: the data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate was 10.1%. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of persons (aged 15 years and over) in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. In these cases persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics, however the values for Unpaid Domestic Work (DOMP) remain "not stated". Of the remaining 5.9% (946,485 people aged 15 years and over) who did not answer the Unpaid Domestic Work question:

- 49.8% were female;
- 39% were married; 34% were never married; and 16% were widowed;
- 34% were husbands or wives in a registered marriage; 18% were living alone; and 9% were natural or adopted dependent students;
- 45% were aged 60 or over;
- 39% did not state their income; a further 41% reported gross incomes of less than \$400 per week;
- 47% were not in the labour force (and a further 31% did not answer the labour force questions);
- 12.5% were full-time students, and 1.6% were part-time students.

Unpaid Domestic Work was one of four new questions regarding unpaid work or care in the 2006 Census, located sequentially near the end of the questionnaire. The unpaid work questions varied in complexity with regard to reference periods, the amount of text to be read, and the number of response categories offered, but a response to each could be recorded by simply marking the relevant box. Results show, however, that the first two unpaid work questions (including Unpaid Domestic Work) recorded higher non-response rates than the two unpaid work questions following. This finding suggests that some respondents had more difficulty with the concepts or question design for DOMP, or felt that this question was irrelevant to them.

In a small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 0.2%), respondents provided more than the required number of responses (for DOMP, respondents are asked to only mark one response). Where more than one response was marked a "Yes" response with the highest number of hours was accepted over any other responses, including any "No" response. Just under 0.07% of people applicable to DOMP supplied multiple 'Yes' responses, while just over 0.08% supplied contradictory 'No' plus 'Yes' responses.

Census data is particularly suitable for the analysis of demographic variables within linked geographic areas. However, at small area data levels, outliers (unusual results) may become more apparent to users. This becomes more probable as other data items are incorporated in the analysis, and users are reminded that almost all census data is as originally reported by the respondents. For some variable combinations, the use of interview-based, correlated survey results at a broader geographic level may therefore be more appropriate.

Additional sources of information regarding unpaid domestic work can be found in other ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **How Australians Use Their Time, Australia, 2006** (cat. no. 4153.0) which measures unpaid work in the home and the community, including housework, home maintenance, household management, and household shopping;
- **Aspects of Social Capital, Australia, 2006** (cat. no. 4911.0);
- **Unpaid Work and the Australian Economy, 1997** (cat. no. 5240.0);
- **Australian Social Trends** (cat. no. 4102.0, various years) containing a variety of articles pertaining to unpaid domestic work.

Selected Theme Pages on the ABS Website may also contain links to alternative data sources that may be of relevance to users.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- the Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and
- the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/11/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Usual Address Five Years Ago Indicator (UAI5P) - Characteristics 2006

Usual Address Five Years Ago Indicator

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable contains the mark box answer to the question on the 2006 Census forms which asks, 'Where did the person usually live five years ago (at 8 August 2001)?'. This variable when used with Usual Address Indicator (UAICP), Usual Address One Year Ago Indicator (UAI1P), and also with place of usual residence data, shows migration patterns.

Image of Question

<p>10 Where did the person usually live five years ago (at 8 August 2001)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the person is less than five years old, leave blank.• For persons who had no usual address on 8 August 2001, give the address at which they were then living.• Remember to mark box like this: —	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Same as in question 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Same as in question 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address</p> <p>Street number</p> <p>Street name</p> <p>Suburb/Locality</p> <p>State/Territory Postcode</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other country</p>
---	---

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged five years and over

1. Same as in 2006
2. Elsewhere in Australia

[Back to top](#)

- 3. Overseas in 2001
- 8. Same as in 2005
- & Not stated
- @ Not applicable
- V Overseas visitor 2006

Total number of categories: 7

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Usual Address Five Years Ago Indicator (UAI5P)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Usual Address Five Years Ago Indicator (UAI5P).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality for data captured or derived.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 7.0% compared with 4.4% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.1% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a Census form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for Usual Address Five Years Ago Indicator (UAI5P) remain not stated. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

Where the check box responses for "Same as in question 8" or "Same as in question 9" or "Other country" have been marked, then UAI5P is captured automatically. Where the "Elsewhere ..." box is marked or no mark has been captured, clerical checks are conducted to ascertain that any address information provided is in fact "Elsewhere", and in those few cases where the address is the same as in question 8 or question 9 then UAI5P is corrected to reflect that.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of

these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

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Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Usual Address Indicator Census Night (UAICP) - Characteristics 2006

Usual Address Indicator Census Night

On this page:

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Classification

This variable contains the mark box answer to the question on the 2006 Census forms which asks, Where does the person usually live? In cases where a person did not state where they usually live, UAICP and PURP are imputed. See Imputation Flag for Usual Residence (IFPURP).

This variable, when used with Usual Address One Year Ago Indicator and Usual Address Five Years Ago Indicator (UAI1P and UAI5P) and also with place of usual residence data shows migration patterns.

Applicable to: All persons

- 1 At home
- 2 Elsewhere in Australia
- 3 Overseas visitor 2006

Total number of categories: 3

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Usual Address Indicator Census Night (UAICP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Usual Address Indicator Census Night (UAICP).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality for data captured or derived.

For most persons the check box responses for "The address shown on the front of the form" or "Other country" have been marked, in which case Usual Address Indicator Census Night (UAICP) is captured automatically. Where the "Elsewhere" box is marked or no mark has been captured, clerical checks are conducted to ascertain that the address provided is in fact "Elsewhere" and in those few cases where the address is the same as the front of the form

UAICP is corrected to "At home".

For 2.6% of persons UAICP is derived. These are generally cases where UAICP is not stated but sufficient information has been collected elsewhere on the form to determine whether the person is usually resident in that dwelling. Such information includes details of the persons usual address provided in Question 8 on the household form or information provided in the relationship question (Q5) which indicates they are a visitor to the dwelling. They may also be enumerated in a migratory Collection District (eg. on a long-distance train).

Where there was no mark in the response boxes and there was no address or other information that could be used to derive UAICP, then it was imputed. The imputation rate for UAICP was 4.1%. Nearly all of this imputation is attributable to 4.0% of persons, including overseas visitors, in dwellings which were occupied on census night but did not return a completed form (Note that a small proportion of these persons staying at a non-private dwelling on Census Night have provided their UAICP on a Summary Form). Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics such as UAICP.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled Managing Census Quality.

[Back to top](#)



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/11/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Usual Address One Year Ago Indicator (UAI1P) - Characteristics 2006

Usual Address One Year Ago Indicator

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable contains the mark box answer to the question on the 2006 Census forms which asks 'Where did the person usually live one year ago (at 8 August 2005)?'. This variable when used with Usual Address Indicator (UAICP), Usual Address Five Years Ago Indicator (UAI5P), and also with place of usual residence data, shows migration patterns.

Image of Question

9 Where did the person usually live one year ago (at 8 August 2005)? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the person is less than one year old, leave blank.• For persons who had no usual address on 8 August 2005, give the address at which they were then living.• Remember to mark box like this: —	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Same as in question 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address</p> <p>Street number <input type="text"/></p> <p>Street name <input type="text"/></p> <p>Suburb/Locality <input type="text"/></p> <p>State/Territory Postcode <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other country</p>
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[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged one year and over

1. Same as in 2006
2. Elsewhere in Australia
3. Overseas in 2005
- & Not stated
- @ Not applicable
- V Overseas visitor 2006

Total number of categories: 6

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Usual Address One Year Ago Indicator (UAI1P)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Usual Address One Year Ago Indicator (UAI1P).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality for data captured or derived.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 5.9% compared with 4.1% for 2001. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.1% of persons in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a Census form. Persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for UAI1P remain not stated. In 2001, 2.1% of persons were imputed into dwellings for which no form was received.

Where the check box responses for "Same as in question 8" or "Other country" have been marked, then UAI1P is captured automatically. Where the "Elsewhere ..." box is marked or no mark has been captured, clerical checks are conducted to ascertain that any address information provided is in fact "Elsewhere", and in those few cases where the address is the same as in question 8 then UAI1P is corrected to "Same as in 2006".

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the

question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 17/11/2006 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Usual residence - Characteristics 2006

Usual Residence

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

Usual residence data provide information on the usually resident population of an area, and on the internal migration patterns at the state and regional levels. The 2006 Census has three questions on usual residence that ask where the person usually lives on Census Night, and where the person usually lived one year ago and five years ago. [More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: All persons

1. At home
2. Elsewhere in Australia
3. Overseas visitor 2006

Total number of categories: 3

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are

needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

This page last updated 20 May 2011

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Voluntary Work for an Organisation or Group (VOLWP) - Characteristics 2006

Voluntary Work for an Organisation or Group

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records people who spent time doing unpaid voluntary work through an organisation or group, in the twelve months prior to Census Night.

It excludes work done:

- as part of paid employment
- if main reason is to qualify for Government benefit
- in a family business.

[More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

<p>51 In the <i>last twelve months</i> did the person spend any time doing voluntary work through an organisation or group?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exclude anything you do as part of your paid employment or to qualify for a Government benefit.• Exclude working in a family business.	<p><input type="radio"/> No, did not do voluntary work <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes, did voluntary work</p>
--	---

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons aged 15 years and over

1. Not a volunteer
 2. Volunteer
- & Not stated
- @ Not applicable
- V Overseas visitor

Total number of categories: 5

[More Detailed Description](#)

[Back to top](#)

Quality Statement - Voluntary Work for an Organisation or Group (VOLWP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data; the following information should be considered when viewing data on Voluntary Work for an Organisation or Group (VOLWP).

This data was captured automatically from check box responses on the form so the risk of processing error is minimal. Sample checks of the data are undertaken to ensure an acceptable level of quality.

The non-response rate was 9.5%. Part of this non-response is attributable to the 4.2% of persons (aged 15 years and over) in dwellings which were occupied on Census Night but did not return a completed form. In these cases persons are imputed into these dwellings together with some demographic characteristics. However the values for Voluntary Work for an Organisation or Group (VOLWP) remain not stated.

In a very small proportion of cases (testing has indicated that this is less than 1%), respondents using a paper form provide an incorrect combination of responses. This occurs when a "No" response is marked together with a "Yes" response. In these cases the "Yes" response is retained and the "No" response is rejected.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures.

There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality management of the Census program aims to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

When completing their Census form, some people do not answer all the questions which apply to them. In these instances, a 'not stated' code is allocated during processing, with the exception of non-response to age, sex, marital status and place of usual residence. These variables are needed for population estimates, so they are imputed using other information on the Census form, as well as information from the previous Census.

The processing of information from Census forms is now mostly automated, using scanning, Intelligent Character Recognition and other automatic processes. Quality assurance procedures are used during Census processing to ensure processing errors are kept at an acceptable level. Sample checking is undertaken during coding operations, and corrections are made where necessary.

The Census form may be completed by one household member on behalf of others. Incorrect answers can be introduced to the Census form if the respondent does not understand the question or does not know the correct information about other household members. Many of these errors remain in the final data.

More detailed information on data quality is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0), in the section titled [Managing Census Quality](#).

[Back to top](#)



Australian Bureau of Statistics

2901.0 - Census Dictionary, 2006 (Reissue)

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/07/2007 Reissue

Contents >> Short Definitions and Classifications - 2006 >> Year of Arrival in Australia (YARP) - Characteristics 2006

Year of Arrival in Australia

On this page:

[Description](#)

[Image of Question](#)

[Classification](#)

[Quality Statement](#)

Description

This variable records the year of arrival in Australia for people born overseas who intend staying in Australia for at least one year. In 1996, data were collected in categories ranging from 'Before 1981' to '1996'. For 2001 and 2006, data were collected by single year with valid responses in 2006 being in the range 1895 to 2006.

When cross-classified with other Census data, these data are useful for analysing how the characteristics of migrants change with length of time in Australia.

[More Detailed Description](#)

Image of Question

13 In what year did the person first arrive in Australia to live here for one year or more?	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Year
• For example, for arrival in 1974 write: 1 9 7 4 Year	<input type="radio"/> Will be in Australia less than one year

[Back to top](#)

Classification

Applicable to: Persons born overseas who will be in Australia for more than one year

1890-2006 (1890 to 2006 singly)

&&& Not stated

@@@ Not applicable

VVV Overseas visitor

Total number of categories:

by single year of arrival 115

by standard recode 11

Quality Statement - Year of Arrival in Australia (YARP)

There are many aspects which can affect the quality of Census data. The following information should be considered when viewing data on Year of Arrival in Australia (YARP).

This data is captured automatically from written numeric responses and there is some risk of character recognition error. The data is subject to sample checks to ensure an acceptable level of quality and all outlying values are checked to ensure they match the response on the form.

The non-response rate for 2006 was 4.8%, the same rate as for 2001. Unlike most other variables the non-response rate is not affected by the occurrence of non-responding dwellings as Year of Arrival in Australia (YARP) is only applicable for persons who have stated that they were born in a country other than Australia, in the preceding question.

Figure 1: Year of Arrival in Australia Question and Preceding Question

12 In which country was the person born? • Remember to mark box like this: ■	<input type="checkbox"/> Australia ► Go to 14 <input type="checkbox"/> England <input type="checkbox"/> New Zealand <input type="checkbox"/> Italy <input type="checkbox"/> Viet Nam <input type="checkbox"/> Scotland <input type="checkbox"/> Greece Other – please specify 	<input type="checkbox"/> Australia ► Go to 14 <input type="checkbox"/> England <input type="checkbox"/> New Zealand <input type="checkbox"/> Italy <input type="checkbox"/> Viet Nam <input type="checkbox"/> Scotland <input type="checkbox"/> Greece Other – please specify 
13 In what year did the person first arrive in Australia to live here for one year or more? • For example, for arrival in 1974 write: 1 9 7 4 Year	 Year <input type="checkbox"/> Will be in Australia less than one year	 Year <input type="checkbox"/> Will be in Australia less than one year

Additional sources of Year of Arrival in Australia information are available from ABS publications and associated collections, including:

- **Australian Social Trends (various years) (cat. no. 4102.0)**, which contain a number of articles relating to year of arrival.
- **Perspectives on Migrants, 2007 (cat. no. 3416.0)**, which contains year of arrival data in a series of articles about a range of migrant and ethnicity related issues.

Most ABS population surveys collect information on year of arrival for the overseas-born population. Regular statistics on overseas arrivals and departures classified by country of birth, are available from passenger cards required to be completed by each person leaving or entering Australia.

The ABS aims to produce high quality data from the Census. To achieve this, extensive effort is put into Census form design, collection procedures, and processing procedures. More details regarding these efforts can be found in:

- the Census Data Quality Declaration (re data relevance, timeliness, accuracy, coherence, interpretability, and accessibility);
- the Census Characteristics documents (data quality statements for each census characteristic); and

- the 2006 Census Dictionary (cat. no. 2901.0) in the section titled 'Managing Census Quality'.

All are available from the ABS Website.

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

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